**Math 8 2017-2018: Plan for Success**

Welcome to the wonderful world of Mathematics 8 at East Lower School! My name is Mr. Gutierrez and I am excited to be your teacher this year.

In class, we will be using a math curriculum called the *Connected Mathematics Program (CMP)*. Scholars will explore a series of interesting connected problems to develop a deep understanding of the mathematics. With the help of your teachers, you will come up with powerful mathematical ideas, skills, problem-solving strategies, and ways of thinking. Listening to, questioning, and discussing ideas will help all scholars make sense of mathematics. Scholars will learn mathematics and learn how to learn mathematics.

**Course Topics:**

*Moving Straight Ahead -* exploring linear equations and graphs

*Thinking with Mathematical Models-* linear models, patterns and equations

*Butterflies, Pinwheels, and Wallpaper -* transformational geometry

*Say it with Symbols*  - functions and algebraic expressions

*It’s in the System -* systems of linear equations

*Growing, Growing, Growing -* exponents and scientific notation

*Looking for Pythagoras -* developing and using the Pythagorean Theorem

In order to accomplish our goal of doing your best, scholars must meet high academic and behavior expectations at all times. I promise to do the same!

**Classroom Expectations:**

* Arrive to class on time
* Come prepared with all of your materials
* Actively participate and engage in classroom activities and discussions
* Be respectful of yourself, others, and materials
* Don’t hesitate to ask questions and come for extra help when needed

**Grading Policy:**

1. **Tests/Quizzes:** **60%**
2. **Classwork: 30%**

* Projects
* Quick Checks/Checks for understanding
* Exit Tickets

1. **Homework: 10%**

**Retake Policy:**

Here at East we want scholars to develop a growth-mindset, i.e. that they are capable of learning anything if they put in the time and effort. Since the ultimate goal is for scholars to learn and be successful, you will be given the opportunity to retake any classroom test or quiz **as long as you get extra help in school**. Scholars will need to schedule an appointment with me or another teacher to review test/quiz material before they will be allowed to retake the test/quiz. Scholars may also review test/quiz material with support room teachers. Please let me know at least one day in advance so that I can make proper arrangements.

**Attendance:**

Research shows that successful students are those who attend the most classes. Students are expected to be present in class. **If you are absent from class, it is YOUR responsibility to demonstrate your TENACITY** by getting work that you may have missed and be sure to ask a friend or a teacher for any notes missed. It is **YOUR** responsibility to show me the work you have missed and to set up times to make up tests or quizzes. Any work not completed within the appropriate time will be given a 0.

**Required Materials:**

1. Composition notebook
2. Classroom Folder
3. Take Home Folder
4. Black/blue pens and pencils
5. *Optional*: Grid paper, rulers, scientific calculator for home use

Please reach out if you have any questions. I look forward to a great year!

Sincerely,

Mr. Franky Gutierrez

Bilingual Math teacher