

**Powell Middle School**  
**8th Grade Pre-Algebra Syllabus**  
**2019-2020**

**Course Description:** 8th Grade Pre-Algebra is a course designed to prepare students for the high school math. Students use calculators and their minds to solve a variety of problems. We will address the units covered in the 8th grade math curriculum with emphasis on increasing present levels of math competency.

**Contact Information:** Mrs. Faller is reachable by email or by phone or text. cell (865) 963-5074  
 cindy.faller@knoxschools.org Calls will be returned after 3:30 p.m. Leave your name/student's name if you send a text message.

**Instruction:** The following topics will be covered during the academic year as follows:

Semester 1	Semester 2
<b>Unit 1: Real Numbers, Exponents, &amp; Scientific Notation</b>	<b>Unit 4: Transformational Geometry</b>
Module 1: Real Numbers Module 2: Exponents & Scientific Notation	Module 9: Transformations & Congruence Module 10: Transformations & Similarity
<b>Unit 2: Proportional &amp; Non-proportional Relationships &amp; Functions</b>	<b>Unit 5: Measurement Geometry</b>
Module 3: Proportional Relationships Module 4: Non-proportional Relationships Module 5: Writing Linear Equations Module 6: Functions	Module 11: Angle Relationships in Parallel Lines & Triangles Module 12: The Pythagorean Theorem Module 13: Volume
<b>Unit 3: Solving Equations &amp; Systems of Equations</b>	<b>Unit 6: Statistics</b>
Module 7: Solving Linear Equations Module 8: Solving Systems of Equations	Module 14: Scatter Plots Module 15: Probability of Compound Events

- Additional time will be used to build skills in areas of deficiency.

**Resources:** The textbook used for Pre- Algebra is GOMATH Middle School Grade 8

<http://my.hrw.com>

*We will be using Kahn Academy, Brain Pop, and various Mathematic based web sites to supplement the textbook and enhance the opportunity for mastery. If you do not approve of a specific resource listed in this syllabus, please make your request to me in writing and an alternative assignment and/or materials will be provided. The request should include your name, the student's name, the specific activity/materials in which you do not want your child to participate or to which you do not want them exposed, and the nature of your objection.*

**Materials:** The students are expected to have paper, pencil, high lighters (two different colors), loose leaf paper, 2-pocket, 3-prong folder (any color) every day in class. Individual teachers may differ in materials for their specific class.

- A set of TI-30XS Multi-View calculators will be available for test and classroom use.

**Assessment:** The following is the grade distribution for Pre-Algebra:

All Assignments: 100%

**Make-up/Late Work:** Students are responsible for checking with Mrs. Faller to see what they missed when they were absent. Students can make arrangements to do make-up tutoring to re-take missed tests as needed.

**ASPEN on Parent Portal Post Policy:** To provide timely feedback, grades will be entered into ASPEN at least once a week except under extreme circumstances. If you would like to know how to set up ASPEN to give you alerts, you can e-mail me and I will send you the cheat sheet.

**Student Expectations:** My classroom management is based upon mutual respect. There are only three major classroom expectations: **Be Respectful. Be Prepared. Always do your best.** Students will be provided reminders of the rules with explanation on how they relate to being a successful adult. I will point out when students are meeting expectations and praise them. I will encourage peers to give each other positive feedback. I will also be awarding points when I "catch" students meeting expectations consistently or showing improvement. Those points will result in the students earning a token reinforcer of their choice. 10 points = 1 reinforcer. They can ask for a point sweep too, if I haven't given points in a while. That's a written request by a student to me to check in on their points. I can get distracted and forget the point system and I want to give them a way to remind me that models making requests from an employer. If students continue to struggle meeting the expectations they may bring home a teacher note to let you know what is going on. Please take a moment to read it, sign it and if the student returns it the matter will be settled. If not, the student will be referred to the minor log.

**Religion in the Classroom:**

The Board affirms that it is essential that the teaching about religion—and not of a religion be conducted in a factual, objective and respectful manner in accordance with the following:

- Music, art, literature, or drama with a religious theme or basis are permitted as part of the curriculum for school-sponsored activities and programs provided it is essential to the learning experience in the various fields of study and is presented objectively;
- The emphasis on religious themes in the arts, literature and history shall be only as extensive as necessary for a balanced and comprehensive study of these areas. Such studies shall never foster any particular religious tenets or demean any religious beliefs; and
- Student-initiated expressions to questions or assignments which reflect their beliefs or non-beliefs about a religious theme shall be accommodated. For example, students are free to express religious belief or non-belief in compositions, art forms, music, speech and debate.

**Communication:** Each class will have a page on ASPEN that will be updated frequently throughout the semester. The students will also have access to a Canvas page if provided by the teacher. Each teacher will use Remind to inform the parents and students of important upcoming events in the classroom.

If you have any questions or concerns at any time, please contact me via ASPEN, the school office 938-9008, or email at [jeanie.roop@knoxschools.org](mailto:jeanie.roop@knoxschools.org), [samantha.vermillion@knoxschools.org](mailto:samantha.vermillion@knoxschools.org), [shelley.powell@knoxschools.org](mailto:shelley.powell@knoxschools.org) , or [cindy.faller@knoxschools.org](mailto:cindy.faller@knoxschools.org).

**Please indicate you have read and are aware of the information provided in the Pre-Algebra Syllabus from Mrs. Faller.**

-----*cut along dotted line*-----

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**Student signature/date**

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**Parent signature/date**

Mrs. Faller's Pre-Algebra Class

Getting this signed and returned is worth 10 points on your student's grade.