**Welcome to Mrs. Elter’s 8th Grade Resource Math Class!**

**What is Resource?**

A resource classroom is a classroom in which your child will receive content area instruction in a more intensive environment. The classroom will be a small group environment, which will allow for more individualized learning for your child’s specific academic needs.

**Curriculum**

The math curriculum in our classroom will be based on the Common Core State Standards and they will be taught grade level standards. Students will also be taught areas of need that may not be grade level curriculum. Our classroom will focus on the five areas of math – Ratios and Proportional Relationships, The Number System, Expressions and Equations, Geometry, Statistics and Probability.

**Materials**

Students will be required to have the following all year for this class:

* 1 1 subject notebook (preferably Five Star or similarly sized with hard plastic cover)
* 1 ruler\*
* 1 pack of markers\*
* 1 pack of colored pencils\*
* 1 pack of crayons\*
* 1 pack of #2 pencils\*
* 2 folders
* A homework agenda\*
* Highlighters

\* - If your student needs these materials for any other class, there is no need to buy extra. Other non-starred materials are those that are required specifically for this class alone.

Your student will leave their interactive notebook in the classroom every day as well as an interactive text that will have their warmups, practice and homework, unless they need to take it home. If they need to take any loose papers home, they will be in their take home folder.

**Behavioral Expectations**

Students are expected to follow the Student Code of Conduct. This includes being respectful, responsible, motivated and safe. In addition, there are 5 specific classroom rules that students will follow while in my class.

1. Follow directions quickly
2. Raise hand for permission to speak
3. Raise hand for permission to leave seat
4. Make smart choices
5. Keep your teacher happy

**Behavioral Rewards and Consequences**

Our school-wide system will allow for students to have rewards such as block parties, open lunches (in the cafeteria), candy, etc for following the school rules. When students go above and beyond in the classroom, they will receive Maverick Bucks to spend in a school store. More information is to come about how often students will get to use their Maverick Bucks.

Unfortunately, sometimes our students do not make the best choices. When students do not make the best choices, we follow a procedure, with consequences for each step. As always, before the first offense we give students a reminder.

 **1st offense:** A verbal warning.

 **2nd offense:** Parent contact and lunch detention.

 **3rd offense:** Parent contact and classroom removal (bounce)/detention with a behavior reflection.

 **4th offense:** Referral to administration – parent contact (possible conference). A referral could lead to detention or even a suspension.

**Academic Expectations**

**Attendance:** Students are expected to attend school regularly. There is a lot of content to fit into one school year, and it is crucial that students do not miss any of this content.

**Absence:** If a student is absent, they will have an “absent buddy” who will fill out a “While You Were Out” sheet and staple any worksheets/activities the student missed. This will be placed in a folder for your student’s specific block. It is the student’s responsibility to collect this folder and turn in work by the assigned date.

**Homework:** Students are expected to complete homework by the due date given. Homework assignments will never be significantly lengthy. Rather, they are to help students keep the content in their working memory by practicing. Some students require extra time, and this time will be provided if necessary.

**Late Work:** Aside from those who are given permission for extra time, students will lose 10 points for every day an assignment is late. After 5 days, students can turn in an assignment for half credit.

**Extra Credit:** There will be extra credit opportunities available. However, this will not be offered to students who did not turn in any work throughout the quarter, and are trying to improve their grade at the last minute. This will be offered to students who put in their best effort.

**Projects/Long-Term Assignments:** Middle school students often have difficulty turning in projects with a long-term due date. Any project or large assignment given will be chunked so that small pieces are due over a course of time, along with a scoring rubric for each component.

**Grading:** CMS has set a policy for how assignments are graded. 65% is formal projects and assignments (such as tests). 35% is informal projects and assignments (such as homework). Grades will be posted by ten days after the assignment was due/turned in.

**Technology**

Francis Bradley Middle School is a 1:1 school. This means that every student will have the opportunity to have a Chromebook to use throughout the day. Students are expected to be able to handle the responsibility of retrieving their Chromebook in the morning, taking care of it throughout the day, and returning it before they leave. Students are also expected to follow school and district safety rules and guidelines. It is understood this means that Chromebooks are a *privilege.* If a student cannot handle the responsibility of taking care of their Chromebook, whether it is damaged or they are not on responsible websites, Chromebooks can be taken away for a day, a week, or even the rest of the school year. Please remind your students that their teachers have the ability to see every website they have been on, certain websites will already be blocked, and their teachers are able to block websites.

**Bell Schedule**

Homeroom: 8:45-9:15

Block 1: 9:15-10:35

Block 2: 10:40-12:00

Block 3: 12:05 – 2:40 (lunch and outside time)

Block 4: 2:45 – 4:05 (electives)

Homeroom: 4:05-4:15

**Other Information**

Please use my website, mscarlson1.weebly.com, as a resource for upcoming and current information regarding the classroom. The weekly schedule will be posted, as well as any homework, upcoming assignments and resources for you to use at home. I look forward to working with you and your student this year, watching them grow into confident readers and learners.

I have read Mrs. Elter’s syllabus, understand what is expected of me/my student, and have discussed it together.

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_