September 2016

Dear Parents:

I am pleased to have your child in my mathematics class at Barack Obama Academy of International Studies. In order for each student to have a successful year in math class, he/she will need to do the following:

- Be punctual and prepared. Bring all materials (math binder, 4 dividers, paper and pencils) to class everyday.
- Record all assignments in the agenda book and in the math binder.
- Complete all classwork and homework assignments on time.
- Keep math binder up to date and well-organized.
- Participate in class everyday.
- Behave appropriately at all times. (Adhere to Pittsburgh Obama and PPS policies)

I am asking that your child obtain a supply of pencils, filler paper, 4 dividers, reinforcement holes, and a 1-inch binder to be used exclusively for mathematics class. These materials will be instrumental in helping your child stay organized for class.

The Grade 6 Mathematics curriculum is designed to build students’ conceptual and skill development in number sense, computation and estimation, geometry, measurement, algebra, statistics and probability. The year is divided into 7 units with each unit developing a major concept. Each unit, in turn, is developed around a series of investigations which are designed around real-world situations that students must interpret and solve.

Throughout the year I will employ a variety of strategies to engage your student such as: whole class lecture, small group activities, independent projects and inquiry-based learning. Students must observe patterns and relationships, conjecture, test, discuss, verbalize and generalize. Students are expected to reflect and communicate their problem solving methods on a regular basis.

Your child will be graded according to the following policy:

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tests/Quizzes</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Classwork</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>20%</td>
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Assessments will include mathematical reflections, tests and quizzes, projects, homework, class assignments and notebook entries. Selected assessments will be graded utilizing the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme Assessment Areas. The areas are as follows: Knowing and Understanding, Investigating Patterns, Communicating, and Applying Mathematics in Real-Life Contexts.

You should expect your child to have math homework 4 days a week. There will be no opportunities for extra credit work and late assignments will not be accepted after one week and will receive half credit.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (412) 325-8765 or email rhoffmanhodge1@pghboe.net. I look forward to working with your child this year.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Hodge

Approved __________________________

Director

Yalmae Colbert