



**Smith Junior High School**  
7<sup>th</sup> Grade Mathematics  
2008 / 2009



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Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the 2008 / 2009 school year. Below is a description of the requirements for the math class your students will be taking this year. These descriptions were designed to answer frequently asked questions regarding homework, tests, and grading policies. Please feel free to call me at the number above, or email me, if I haven't covered any question you might have. I hope your students will enjoy and be successful in their 7<sup>th</sup> grade Smith Junior High School math class.

**What will my student be studying in math this year?**

Math instruction for 7<sup>th</sup> grade will follow the five strands outlined in the Arizona Department of Education's Academic Standards: Number Sense and Operations; Data Analysis, Probability, and Discrete Mathematics; Patterns, Algebra and Functions; Geometry and Measurement; and Structure and Logic. A comprehensive listing of sub-objectives under each of these strands is available from the instructor upon request or on the Arizona Department of Education website: <http://www.ade.state.az.us/>

**Homework Questions: What kind? How often? How is it graded?**

Your child will have homework on a daily basis. Most homework assignments consist of approximately 20 problems. Your student will have most of the homework completed before they leave the class period that day. It would be helpful if you asked your student everyday to show you their math work. In order to earn any credit at all, students must follow the Sidewinder homework philosophy of:

**Quality Work:**

**Completely Finished  
The Best You Can Do  
On Time**

An assignment with even one problem left blank (or not seriously attempted) will be marked as incomplete and be given a zero. The purpose of these assignments is to practice new objectives learned that day -- as well as to review previously taught information to prepare for section tests, semester tests, District Tests, and the all important AIMS Test. With this in mind, it is imperative that you and I work together to help your student understand the necessity for and importance of classroom participation and homework.

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**Please sign and return the bottom portion found on the reverse side of this letter.**

