

# Welcome



## TO MRS. BLACK'S CLASS



It is going to be a fun year of learning and friendships, and I can't wait to meet everyone on Monday, August 26th. Here is some helpful information for you to know about this class.

I believe that success comes from the teacher working in partnership with the parent and the student. Please call or email me when you have a question or a concern.



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### MRS. BLACK

I am a parent of five daughters who attend Pinckney schools. Two of them are in college: one at MSU and the other in Mississippi. My other three daughters attend Pinckney HS. I have been teaching in Pinckney for 24 years. I love rustic camping, the beach, logic puzzles, magic, chinese food and watching the Big Bang Theory. This summer I went on my very first cruise to the Bahamas! I had so much fun playing in the crystal blue water and swimming with the dolphins. My family are huge Spartans fans!



**Agendas** are found by going to the "Pathfinder" home page and clicking on the left side you will see the parent tab. Under the parent tab it will have a link that reads, "Agendas" click on it and all the beautiful teacher pictures will show up. Click on my picture, and it will take you to my webpage.

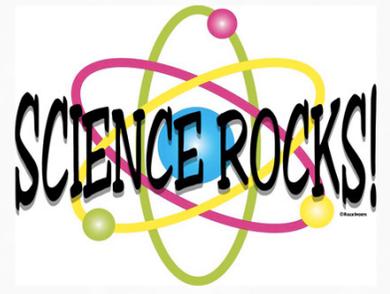
MATH

$$M1 + A1 = 2H$$

### Our New Math Program, "CMP"

Our district has adopted a comprehensive mathematics program intended for U.S. students in grades 6-8. The curriculum design, text materials for students, and supporting resources for teachers were created and have been progressively refined by the Connected Mathematics Project (CMP) at Michigan State University with advice and contributions from many mathematics teachers, curriculum developers, mathematicians, and mathematics education researchers. CMP is a problem-centered curriculum promoting an inquiry-based teaching-learning classroom environment. Through this program students should be able to reason and communicate proficiently in mathematics.





## SCIENCE

The science curriculum will follow the Next Generation Science Standards. The main units will be . . .

- Inquiry Processes
- Chemistry
- Cells and Heredity
- Waves and Energy

## HOMEWORK (Formative assessments are 20% of the overall grade)

### Math

Students will be given math problems to practice independently. The problems will be assigned to be completed electronically or with paper and pencil from the student math workbook. Homework is corrected online, and then students come to class with the questions they may have. Homework is recorded in MiStar as a "5" if it is completed and a "0" if it is missing. Homework is not graded on the number right or wrong, but it is still very important to take the time to complete it accurately because it will help to improve understanding of new mathematical concepts and to prepare students for upcoming assessments. Students will be asked to keep their math work in a binder to show their progress and to review for assessments.

### Science

Students will learn mainly through participation in labs and classroom discussions. So homework will rarely be assigned in science. Students will be asked to keep their science work in a binder.

## PATHFINDER MISSION STATEMENT

We believe in a school program that is structured to promote student success; both academically and socially. ***We accept the responsibility to assist all students so that they can attain their maximum educational potential.*** We will provide a positive learning atmosphere that accepts the individuality of each student and promotes self-confidence and self-discipline.

***So if your child is struggling with math or science, I will gladly tutor him/her after school for free! Just call or email to arrange.***



## PARENT SHOWCASE

I look forward to meeting with you on **Tuesday, September 10th at 6:00 p.m.** The office will be sending home more information about this soon.

## SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENTS for Math and Science are 80% of the overall grade

Students will be informed of an upcoming assessment at least one week in advance. They will also be given a study guide to help review for the assessment. In the event that a student did not perform as well as s/he would have liked, a retake is offered. However, before the retake is given, the student must have completed all homework assignments for this unit and made the corrections on the first test. In addition, the student will meet with me to discuss what preparations were taken to ensure that s/he will perform better on the retake test. An assessment and the retake are never averaged. The student will earn the most recent grade.

# SUGGESTED CLASSROOM SUPPLIES

Student will not need these supplies until the start of the first FULL week of school.



## MATH SUPPLIES

- 1 inch binders
- 3 tabs/dividers (Notes, Homework, Assessments)
- 2 spiral notebook (70 pages or more)
- many pencils (No pens!)

## SCIENCE SUPPLIES

- 1 inch binders
- 3 tabs/dividers (Notes, Homework, Assessments)
- 2 spiral notebook (70 pages or more)
- many pencils (No pens!)

## FORENSIC SCIENCE SUPPLIES

- 1 three prong folder or 1 inch binder
- many pencils (No pens!)

## OTHER OPTIONAL SUPPLIES for home/locker

- markers
- colored pencils
- highlighter
- ruler
- scissors
- compass
- protractor
- glue sticks



## CLASSROOM DONATIONS

- a box of tissue
- snack size plastic bags
- AAA batteries  
(4 per graphing calculators)

You don't need a graphing calculator.



## Scientific Calculator

Students do not need to purchase a scientific calculator. There are scientific calculators available for students to use in the classroom. Any calculations that need to be made while completing homework assignments can be done on any type of calculator.