

BLUE HERON SCHOOL

Teacher: Jef Waibel
www.ptschools.org/blueheron
(360) 379-4637
jwaibel@ptschools.org



3939 San Juan Avenue
Port Townsend, WA 98368
Phone: (360) 379-4540
Tori Kalscheuer, Principal

Greetings Blue Heron 7th grade Math Students and Parents!

Course Description:

Math teaches us to think logically; to identify and state the problem clearly; to plan how to solve the problem; and then to apply the appropriate methods to evaluate and solve the problem.

Broad Units of Study:

The Port Townsend School District follows the Common Core Standards, adopted by the state of Washington and forty other states in the nation.

The focus areas in 7th grade include:

- Ratios and Proportional Relationships
- The Number System
- Expressions and Equations
- Geometry
- Statistics and Probability

Standards Covered in this Class:

To learn more about the standards covered in 7th grade, please refer to the summary document of the Mathematics Common Core Standards, entitled “CCSS Where to Focus Grade 7 Mathematics”, included with this syllabus. If you’re interested in a more detailed look at the standards covered in 7th grade, please visit: <http://www.corestandards.org/what-parents-should-know/>

Text Materials:

Common Core Standards build on all of the same skills that have been taught for many years and that students will continue to see through high school. We will be using a blend of Carnegie Mathematics 7th and 8th grade curriculum, to prepare students for Algebra in 8th grade. Not every student in this class will advance to Algebra next year, that will be evaluated at the end of the year based on the study habits and test scores of each student.

Asynchronous Work Vs. Synchronous:

Synchronous learning refers to the time spent working with a group or the teacher. Asynchronous learning refers to time spent on independent tasks posted on the playlist - video lessons, Google forms, Edulastic quizzes, MATHia, other online work, etc.

Office hours:

Tuesday/Thursday from 3-4pm, and by appointment, email me to schedule a time!
(jwaibel@ptschools.org)

Grading

Individual and group projects, presentations, and assignments, will be considered in the grading process. Grades will be in the normal A-F range as noted in the Student Planner.

Please schedule vacations carefully to minimize interruptions to the learning process.

Work Completion:

When absent, students should check the weekly Playlist for the content that was missed.

Maritime Discovery School/Place Based Learning

The Port Townsend School District has a mission to enhance the learning of students through the use of place-based learning with an emphasis on maritime programming. Below, I've described two of the experiential education projects included in the seventh grade.

Place-Based Learning Project #1:

Title: Protecting Northwest Waters (PNW)

Essential Question: What can I do to increase the salmon population in Salmon and Snow Creek?

Project Overview: Students observe the salmon run at Illahee Reserve to build context for the project. In addition, students measure and map their assigned plot and analyze soil samples taken from the site. The students complete a lesson on the economics of a project of this magnitude and map out the site, including where the trees will be planted, taking into consideration constraints of the project.

Community Partners: North Olympic Salmon Coalition; Arran Stark; Jefferson Land Trust; Jefferson County Conservation District; NOAA Ocean Guardians

Time Frame: Three trips throughout the school year, October, March and the third in May.

Place-Based Learning Project #2:

Title: Maritime Discovery Program

Essential Question: How can students connect themselves and Port Townsend with maritime history, issues, skills, and opportunities?

Project Overview: Students learn to see obstacles, create solutions and build trust with each other as effective team members to achieve goals all within a maritime context.

Community Partners: NWMC; Mountain View Pool; Multiple community volunteers and presenters during lunch; The Recyclery; Nelson's Blood Shanty Singers

Time Frame: Eight-day experience at the Port Townsend Maritime Center in late May/early June.

Cell Phone Policy: Phones and electronic devices must be silenced and placed out of view in this class.

Note to Parents: Please contact your child by calling the office and not call or text the student's cell phone.

The Blue Heron Handbook has complete details on the phone policy.

Expectations for Success

Students are expected to be on time with the necessary supplies, and participate appropriately with classmates and the teacher and behave in a way that allows all students to learn.

Feel free to email me if you have any questions or concerns!

Jef Waibel

jwaibel@ptschools.org