**PVCM 6 Accelerated**

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**Welcome to PVIS!** I know that all of you want to get a good start and have a pleasant, successful year. The following information will help you understand what I expect of you throughout the year. It is intended to help you do the things that will lead to a successful year and avoid the things that will get you into a difficult situation.

**Supplies:** Bring your homework (in a spiral notebook that holds your class notes and your homework), agenda book, pencils, eraser, and a red pen (not permanent ink or fat tipped) to class everyday. You should bring your own calculator to school. There will be times when you are allowed to use them. I do not loan out pencils. It's a good idea to have a spare. You will have very limited access to your locker once class has started.

**Books:** We will be using *Big Ideas Math, Course 1* by Ron Larson and Laurie Boswell as our text book. There will be a class set in my class. You can also access the text book through the school portal. I will be supplementing the text book with additional material.

**Tardies:** You must be in your assigned seat and quiet when the bell rings. Four tardies will result in an "N" in citizenship and may result in detention.

**Attendance:** You will find school difficult if you are absent frequently. If you plan to be away from school, get your work from me in advance – 2-3 days if possible. The best time to do this is after school or at the end of class, not during class time. If you are ill, check the website for the homework. However, you will be missing all of the explanations that I give during class. You will need to borrow someone's notes to copy. When your absence is excused (illness, medical, dental, family emergency, etc.) you are given the same number of days as your absence to make up the work. **It is your responsibility to show me your completed work so that you can receive credit.** Vacations are unexcused absences. However, you may make arrangements ahead of time for independent study or get the work from me. Work that is requested in advance, is due on the day that you return and you will be required to make up any tests that you missed.

**Leaving the classroom:** Plan to use the restroom during passing breaks. Do not ask to leave the room unless it is an extreme emergency. If you leave the classroom, ask me first, sign out and take the hall pass. You will have two "free passes” each trimester. All other trips out of the room count as tardies.

**Citizenship:** To earn an outstanding for your citizenship grade, you must participate in class, complete and turn in (on time) all homework, and behave in a quiet and courteous manner in class.

**Notes:** Note taking is required. Date each page of your notes. Take your notes in a spiral notebook so that pages do not fall out or get lost. Use this notebook for daily notes and sample problems as well as for your homework. Good, thorough, neat notes will help you do better in class. I will be checking your notes occasionally, so please do not write or draw anything that will be offensive to me.

**Recording grades:** You will be recording your homework grades on your **Assignment Sheet**. Your assignment sheet needs to be kept current. I will collect your assignment sheet regularly. You will be recording your quiz and test grades on your **Parent Signature Sheet**. You will earn points for getting test scores signed on time.

**Homework:** Homework will be assigned Monday through Thursday and is usually started in class. It is explained in class and you are encouraged to ask questions. Always check the assignment board for the current assignment. It is due and will be discussed at the beginning of the next day's class period. Homework left in the locker or at home, etc. is counted as missing. You will have one day to make up the assignment for half credit. *Parents please do not send notes excusing students from homework which is not done due to a busy schedule of outside activities.* At the end of the trimester, I will automatically boost your trimester homework grade by one assignment *if you have kept your assignment sheet up to date*. Assignment sheets will be collected prior to each test. Copying or giving your homework to someone to copy is not acceptable and is considered cheating. Anyone caught doing either will receive a zero for that assignment and is not eligible for the boost at the end of the trimester. To receive credit, the homework must be done neatly in pencil. Homework done in pen will be considered late. Always start your homework on the front of a fresh page of your spiral. Include the date and assignment in the upper right hand corner. You need to copy the problem down (unless it is a word problem) and show all your work. Lists of answers without work are not accepted. You must have a minimum of 70% correct to receive credit for that day's assignment. Rework any problems that you miss to reinforce the concept being taught. Each homework is worth 5 points in the 1st trimester. Each homework is worth 3 points in the 2nd and 3rd trimester.

**Readiness Points**: Each trimester you will start with 10 Readiness Points which can be reduced when you: forget your homework, pencil, red pen, spiral, assignment sheet, or lose your parent signature sheet. You can also lose points if do not bring your calculator on specified days, chew gum, use your phone in class, etc. Please be ready for class!

**Tests:** Tests will usually be every other week and given on our scheduled test day when possible. Quizzes may or may not be announced. I will grade all tests and will return them to you as soon as possible. Correct answers will be discussed in class. All test scores will need to be signed by a parent. Always study for tests. Just doing the homework is not enough. You should review all your notes and the text book. Try to anticipate the kinds of questions that will be on the test. Practice sample problems as well. Don’t forget, odd answers are in the back of the book. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to make arrangements to makeup the test or quiz.

**Replacement Opportunity**: At the end of each trimester a day will be set aside for an *optional* replacement opportunity. This is multiple choice and covers the entire trimester. The score can be used to replace your lowest test grade. It can only help your grade, not bring it down. If you are absent the day the replacement opportunity is given, it cannot be made up. The only exception to this is an absence due to illness or “school business.” The makeup version will not be multiple choice and needs to be taken prior to the end of the trimester.

**Extra Credit:** Extra credit is included on almost every test. There will be limited opportunities for additional extra credit. It is not a substitute for missing assignments or low test scores. It is intended to give a little boost to those who have worked hard but have fallen short of the grade they had hoped to earn. Do not ask for extra credit. I will tell you when it is available.

**Leveling Down:** Students who level down after the 3rd week of the trimester will transfer all grades to the new class.

**After School Help**: The classroom will be open (*some Tuesdays,*) Wednesdays & Thursdays from 3:10 to 4:15 for students to work on homework and get additional help. I will post the days I am available/unavailable on the whiteboard and on my website.

**Take responsibility:** As you mature, your education becomes less the responsibility of teachers and parents. Your progress depends more and more on the time and effort you spend on schoolwork. Think of school as your place of employment and the lessons as your job. Your "pay" is the knowledge you gain by studying and working. You and your attitude are the most important ingredients in your recipe for success.