Welcome to 6th Grade Math!!

I am so excited to begin this year! There are many new ideas that I am going to implement and I wanted to share those with you now.

The traditional classroom has rows of desks, a teacher at the front, and lecture style notes that students memorize and try to recall on the test. I truly believe that this style of learning is not the best method for high-level learning. Numerous research studies have proven that problem-based learning produces significantly higher concept retention. I want your child to achieve the highest possible success. In order to make this happen we must all shift our current thinking and adopt a new growth mindset. (Dweck, 2006)

I know this will be difficult in the beginning. Students have been conditioned to wait for someone to tell them how to do something instead of wanting to discover it on their own. Working through problems that contain new skills is difficult!! We would all rather take the easier road. But I am convinced that learning through problem-based discovery will create a skill set in your student that will benefit them in high school, college, and a career! All companies are looking for problem solvers!

In order for this to be successful, I am asking for your support. Students will be previewing concepts at home, while we solidify their understanding by working problems in class. Diligent note-taking and first look at the material is going to be essential for success in this process. Students may struggle with their first view of new material, but it is productive struggle. If you witness a struggle, please encourage your child to write their questions down and I will be able to address them the next day.

Previewing the material at home first has a two-fold benefit. 1) the student takes ownership of their learning 2) class time is now available for help clarifying and practice applying these concepts

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. Again, my main priority is to help your child reach the highest level of success and ability. I cannot wait to see where this year can take them.

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