

## MIDDLE SCHOOL: GREAT EXPLORATIONS IN MATHEMATICS (GEM)

### WHAT'S NEW FOR 2010-2011?

- 🍏 Semester exam window for the first semester exam is January 10 - 21, 2011.
- 🍏 Semester exam window for the second semester exam is May 23 - June 9, 2011.
- 🍏 Exam security is imperative. Exams should **not** be viewed by ANYONE until the day they are administered. If parents would like to see their child's exam, they can make an appointment for a conference with the math teacher and review the exam at that time.
- 🍏 Exams must be administered and graded in their entirety. All problems must be included in the grade and scores cannot be curved.
- 🍏 GEM-6 will have **semester exams** rather than quarterly exams.
- 🍏 GEM-7 and eighth grade Algebra I Honors students will take a state Algebra I End of Course exam that will count for 30% of their grade.
- 🍏 Any student that completed Algebra I/Algebra I Honors during the 2009-2010 school year is required to take the Algebra I End of Course Exam.
- 🍏 A new GEM Procedural Guide will be distributed in August, 2010. Follow all guidelines in their entirety.
- 🍏 A field test entrance exam for the GEM program was conducted in May 2010 (scores will not be released). Full implementation of the entrance exam is expected to be administered to fifth graders in May 2011.
- 🍏 GEM teachers are required to take GEM training every three years. During the 2010-2011 school year, four-day trainings are scheduled for GEM-6, GEM-7, GEM-8 on 9/16, 11/18, 2/3, and 4/21.

### WHAT YOU NEED TO DO?

- 🍏 Principals, GEM Coordinators, and all GEM teachers should read and understand the GEM Procedural Guide.

### WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF YOU DON'T?

- 🍏 The GEM Program will be monitored by district/area staff.

### WHO NEEDS TO KNOW?

- 🍏 GEM teachers, GEM coordinators, Principals, Area Directors

### HOW WILL YOU COMMUNICATE FOLLOW-UP?

- 🍏 Emails to Principals and GEM Coordinators, Area Directors

### CONTACT

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