

Margate Middle School

8th Grade



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the 8th grade at Margate Middle School! The success of your child depends upon teacher/parent/student relationships. We are all members of a **TEAM!** Your child is expected to behave in a manner that will promote a positive learning and teaching environment. Procedures and rules have been established to provide each student with the overall best learning environment. Please read and discuss these procedures with your child. Return the attached verification sheet by August 28, 2015 to your child's first period teacher. Your signature indicates that you have **read, discussed, understood, and agree** to honor the expectations outlined in this letter. We are confident that by working together we will all have a successful year.

Margate Middle School 8th Grade Teachers' Philosophy

We believe that all students can and will behave appropriately at all times and that Margate Middle School continues to provide a safe learning environment because of positive teacher/parent/student relationships. Together we can make a difference! All students are expected to adhere to the guidelines established by the Broward County Student Discipline Code and Conduct Handbook.

Open House

Open House will be held on September 11, 2014 at 6:30 P.M. Please mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend. Please bring the planner given to your child the first week of school.

Course Curriculum

All Margate Middle School courses comply with current state standards.

Language Arts

Your child will study literature, the nature of language and listening, viewing, speaking skills and writing using *Collections* and the Language Arts Florida Standards.

Social Studies

Your child will study a chronological history of the United States through the Reconstruction period. Economics will be the focus of the Junior Achievement Finance program.

Science

Your child will study Physical Science. Students are encouraged to recognize science concepts in everyday life. Science current events are explored. The textbook is Physical Science Fusion. Students are not allowed to take textbooks home. However, students will be able to remove pages from their textbook.

Textbook Website: <https://www-k6.thinkcentral.com/ePC/start.do>

Reading

Your child will study reading strategies that improve comprehension, build vocabulary, and construct meaning from a wide range of texts including novels, magazines, plays, poetry, and prose, both fiction and non-fiction. Students will learn to analyze and evaluate literary works with the goal of creating eager life long readers.

Math

Your child will study a broad range of concepts including number concepts and operations, measurement, data analysis and probability, algebraic thinking, and geometry. Students will strengthen and build upon previously learned mathematical skills and are encouraged to experiment with their own ideas through cooperative learning situations. The textbooks are *Math Connects Course 3* by Glencoe, *Algebra 1* by Holt/McDougal

Grading Policy

Grades will be based on class work, homework, tests, quizzes, class participation and projects. The Broward County grading scale (policy 6000.1) will be in effect.

- A = 90% - 100%
- B+ = 87% - 89%
- B = 80% - 86%
- C+ = 77% - 79%
- C = 70% - 76%
- D+ = 67% - 69%
- D = 60% - 66%
- F = 59% or below

Math grades are configured in the following manner:

Classwork = 25%

Homework = 25%

Quizzes/Tests = 50%

All other subjects' grades are configured in the following manner:

Classwork = 40%

Homework = 20%

Quizzes/Tests = 40%

Grades and attendance are available to you online on Pinnacle at <http://gradebook.browardschools.com/piv>. It is the responsibility of each parent to keep abreast of the academic progress of their child.

Teachers will provide a detailed outline of the homework policy in their classrooms. If a student misses class work and/or homework due to an absence, it is the student's responsibility to obtain the work from his/her teacher or homework buddy and return it allowing two days for each day absent. Late work will not be accepted!

Extracurricular Activities

All students must maintain satisfactory conduct in order to participate in interscholastic, athletic and extra-curricular activities. Eligibility to participate is both an honor and a privilege. To participate in extracurricular interscholastic sports or school clubs, students must maintain an "unweighted" grade point average of 2.0 or higher.

Student Planners

Your student will be supplied with a planner by the school. We use the planner as a means of communication with our students' parents/guardians. It is essential for you to review your child's planner on a daily basis. Homework assignments are required to be recorded in the planner by each student. Planners are required in lieu of bathroom passes. Lastly, we request that no pages be removed from the planner at any time. We appreciate your cooperation and teamwork in helping your child become a more organized, responsible, and successful student.

Interim Reports

Interim Reports will be issued by the team to each student during the fourth week of each quarter. These reports will inform you of your child's progress and conduct. You must sign and return the Interim Report to your child's first period teacher the day after he/she receives it. You can expect Interim Reports on the following dates:

September 24, 2015 November 19, 2015 February 11, 2016 April 28, 2016

Report cards

Report cards will be issued on the following dates:

November 12, 2015 January 28, 2016 April 14, 2016 June 29, 2016

Conferences

Parent/teacher conferences may be scheduled by calling 754-322-3800. Conferences are held on Wednesday and Thursday mornings before school. We require that your child be present at the conference with his/her planner. **Please be prompt as conferences are limited to 20 minutes.**

8th Grade Rules and Guidelines

- Be respectful of others and use appropriate language.
- Remain seated unless you have permission to leave your seat.
- Raise your hand and wait until you are called upon.
- Arrive on time with all necessary supplies and be ready to work with a positive attitude.
- Eating, drinking, and chewing gum are not permitted in class.

- Comply with the Broward County Student Discipline Code and Conduct Handbook.

Consequences

1 st offense	Verbal warning
2 nd offense	Time out / seat change
3 rd offense	Behavior notification/ Detention
4 th offense	Team intervention
5 th offense	Referral

Tardy Consequences

1 st tardy	Warning
2 nd tardy	Behavior notification/ Detention
3 rd tardy	Intervention/guidance referral
4 th tardy	Referral

Margate Middle School Guidelines for Success

As a Margate Middle School Spartan, I vow every day to:

Successfully complete all my work.

Put forth my best effort.

Always treat others with respect and dignity.

Recognize the good in others.

Take pride in myself, my family, and my school.

Ask for help when needed.

Never forget that I am responsible for my actions.

Rewards

Behavior and performance that is above and beyond what is expected will be rewarded in a variety of ways from verbal praise to team celebrations.

We look forward to a productive and successful 2015-2016 school year.

Your Bulls team teachers:

Mr. Moore	Language Arts	tommy.moore@browardschools.com
Ms. Washington	History	norrishawn.washington@browardschools.com
Ms. Grosvenor	Science	sean.grosvenor@browardschools.com
Ms. Williams	Reading	keyscha.williams@browardschools.com
Mrs. Emilimor	Math	lileen.emilimor@browardschools.com
Ms. Griggs	Guidance Counselor	754-322-3800
Mrs. Coletti	8 th Grade Administrator	754-322-3800