Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to Mr. Fajatin (pronounced fa-hot-in) and Ms. Ludens’ 6th grade math class! We hope that this message finds you and your family well! We are eager and excited to begin the new school year and look forward to working with you and your students! We would like to take this opportunity to;

1) Teacher Introductions

2) Class syllabus, materials, and login information.

3) Student expectations

4) Parent to-do list

5) Communication and Teacher contact information

**Teacher Introduction**

**Mr. Fajatin**

(pronounced fa-hot-in) (the j is pronounced like an h as in fajita)

I am currently in my 21st year of teaching in the Hazelwood School District. My career in teaching includes 7 years of elementary teaching in grades 3, 5, and 6 and the past 14 years teaching 6th grade math at Hazelwood North Middle.

My wife also teaches in the Hazelwood School District at West Middle. We have 3 children Lucy, Leah, and Noah.

I graduated from St. Louis University with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and also have an Associate’s Degree in Secondary Education from Saint Louis Community College.

I was born and raised in St. Louis and am a fan of the Blues and Cardinals. My other interests include softball (both of my daughters play), music, and scuba diving.

**Ms. Ludens**

My name is Ellie Ludens and I am the SSD 6th grade math teacher. This will be my 2nd year teaching mathematics with Mr. Fajatin. I recently graduated from Mizzou with a Bachelor's Degree in Special Education and I am excited to continue my teaching career at North Middle School!

I have grown up in St. Louis my whole life so I love all things Cardinals and Blues! When I am not teaching, I enjoy running or relaxing with my friends and family.

I am looking forward to a great year at NMS!

**Our Teaching Philosophy**

We believe all children can learn. Not only is it important for students to grow academically, but holistically as well. It is our belief that a good learning experience is built upon a positive relationship among parent, student, teacher, and administrator. By working together, we believe we can all help your student become the best person possible.

In order to reach this goal, our expectations for student conduct and effort are high. Your participation, encouragement, and support is integral to student success.

**Class syllabus, materials and login information**

**Material to be covered**

1. Ratio and Proportional Relationships
2. Number Systems - decimal operations
3. Expressions and Equations
4. Geometry
5. Statistics and Probability

**Materials to be used**

**textbooks**

All students will have access to 1 set (volume 1 and 2) of consumable math books that students can write in and keep.

**Online Programs**

1. ConnectED - In ConnectED, students will find access to a digital version of the textbook, assignments, assessments, and ALEKS.
2. Google Classroom
3. Parent portal
4. Various other websites

**Other Materials**

1. Calculators (a simple 4 function calculator). Students will be expected to be responsible for their own materials.
2. Notebooks
3. Loose leaf paper
4. Pencils
5. 2 pocket folder
6. 2 Dry erase markers

**How to log into Connected and ALEKS**

1. Open chrome and type connected.mcgraw-hill.com in the address bar.
2. The username is the student id number (lunch number) @hazelwoodschools.org

For example, if your student number was 12345, your username would be [12345@hazelwoodschools.org](mailto:12345@hazelwoodschools.org) (most students have already saved their username and password)

3) The password is capital HSD and then the student number

HSD12345

To open the textbook, click on ebook.

To open ALEKS click on the circle that looks like a pie.

**Student expectations**

Attendance: Students that are not able to be in attendance will still be expected to make-up any missing assignments and/or assessments. Assignments, notes, book pages, and worksheets will be posted in google classroom.

Participation: Students are expected to participate daily.

Conduct: Students are expected to follow the Hazelwood School District Behavior Guidelines.

Homework Assignments: Homework is essential for mastery. Homework will consist of work from the book, ALEKS, and worksheets.

Assessments: There will be quizzes after each lesson and chapter tests.

Checking Parent Portal: Students and parents will have the ability to check grades through Tyler SIS.

**Grading**

Homework and quizzes are worth 30% of your grade

Tests are worth 70% of your grade

Retakes are only available for tests. In order to retake a test, all homework assignments and the study guide must be completed. A student may only retake a test once.

**Parent to-do list**

1. Update your email address with the district
2. Sign up for Remind

**Communication**

Also attached is the invitation to join Remind. **It is very important that all parents/guardians join Remind.** This is a free texting service that will keep you informed of homework assignments, quizzes, tests, and any other important information (it is limited in the number of characters, so you may receive multiple texts or a condensed version of the email). Students will have homework on most nights and signing up will help you and your child stay on top of assignments. Not only will I send that information via Remind, but also through email.

**Contact Information**

Teachers can be contacted via phone or email. Email is the best way to contact us.

Phone: 314-953-7526

Mr. Fajatin’s email: [wfajatin@hazelwoodschools.org](mailto:wfajatin@hazelwoodschools.org)

Ms. Ludens email: eludens@hazelwoodschools.org

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us. We look forward to a productive year and working with you and your child!

Sincerely,

Ms. Ludens and Mr. Fajatin