

6th – 8th Grade Math Curriculum

OVERVIEW

The middle school math program at Word of Life is designed to enhance the student performance in mathematics by placing them in the class most appropriate to the skills they have mastered. Students in 6th grade continue in a single-class instructional manner while the classroom teacher is able to assess strengths and weaknesses. Students are then placed in a 7th grade math class based on classroom performance, achievement test performance, placement test, and teacher recommendation. The following class descriptions explain preparation for each subsequent math class.

6th Grade Math

Taught by the 8th grade teacher, Mr. Scott Rowsell, students are instructed in basic math concepts using the textbook by Scott Foresman, *Exploring Mathematics*. Classroom assessment is performed through homework, classwork, as well as teacher and book generated testing. The teacher is able to evaluate already at the 6th grade level student needs and performance strengths and weaknesses in order to better place students for the 7th grade math class.

7th Grade General Math

This class is taught by the principal, Mr. David Robinson. Continuing to reinforce basic skills, students placed in this class spend time reviewing basic math concepts as

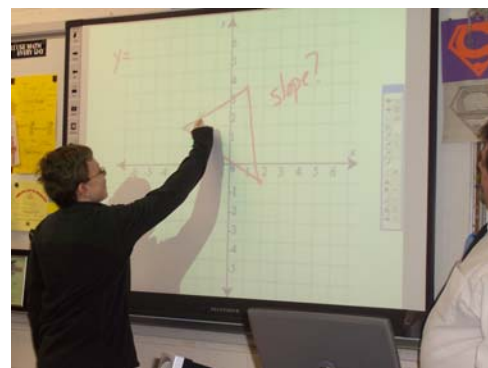
well as an introduction to algebraic and geometric operations. Upon completion of this class, students would transition into either the 8th grade general math class or the pre-algebra class.

8th Grade General Math

The principal, Mr. David Robinson, teaches this class with an incorporation of general math concepts and algebraic and geometric computation. Students completing this class would be prepared for pre-algebra as freshman or potentially testing into an algebra class.

Pre-Algebra

Mr. Matt Springer teaches the pre-algebra class to 7th and 8th grade



students that have met the performance requirements for this class. Upon completion of this class, students would be ready for the 8th grade algebra class or be able to transition into a 9th grade algebra class at their chosen high school.

Algebra

The highest classroom level class for math at Word of Life is algebra. This class is taught by the 8th grade teacher, Mr. Scott Rowsell. Students completing this class as 8th graders would have the opportunity to take algebra again as a 9th grader or potentially test into a higher level math class based on their exit performance assessment. This is determined by the math departments of the area high schools our students attend.



5th-8th Science/Pre-Algebra Teacher, Mr. Matt Springer - I have been a teacher in Lutheran schools for 22 years. After graduating from Concordia College – River Forest in 1987, I was called to Child of Christ Lutheran School and Our Savior Lutheran Church in Hartland, Michigan. I served as a junior high level teacher for seven years in Hartland before receiving the Call to Word of Life. During my fourteen years at W.O.L., I have continued to work with junior high students, variously serving as seventh and eighth grade homeroom teacher with departmentalized literature instruction duties. During the last five school years, I have served as Word of Life's science instructor for grades 4-8. I have a bachelor's degree in education with a concentration in natural science and a master's degree in curriculum and instruction. My family includes my wife, Mara, and my son, Garrick.