

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

26 August 2019

Hello! My name is Stacey Latimer, and I will be your child's sixth grade math teacher this year. Since I will be spending a great deal of time with your child, I would like to introduce myself, both professionally and personally.

I began my academic career at Millersville University, graduating in May 2009 with a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. In the fall of 2011, I finished my Master's degree in Instructional Media from Wilkes University. Continuing my education at Wilkes University, I began my second Master's degree in 21st Century Teaching and Learning, which I completed in May 2013. Since graduating, I began working toward my National Teaching Certification in the fall of 2016. I'm enthusiastic about being able to continue integrating my education into my classroom, providing the possibility of utilizing various media devices to differentiate instruction. In doing so, students will develop a deeper understanding of the content by being able to discover their own learning through hands-on, authentic learning opportunities. I am truly looking forward to a wonderful year with your child as I begin my tenth year at Hershey Middle School!

In addition to my love of education, my family is another top priority in my life. I was born and raised in York, Pennsylvania and attended West York Area School District in York County with my three older brothers. As a family, my brothers and I have shared a love for soccer. Throughout each year, we traveled the east coast and into Canada for soccer tournaments. As we entered college, I had the opportunity to play soccer at the same university with two of my brothers. Since then, I have had the privilege of helping to coach the high school boys' soccer team during the fall and the middle school boys' soccer team during the spring at Hershey for the last nine years.

Over the past five years, my husband, Jeremy, and I have experienced the joy of being homeowners and the responsibilities that come along with it. Even though cleaning our house has not been one of my favorite chores, it has been quite exciting decorating each room. Adding some color to its décor, this summer we remodeled our guest bedroom and guest bathroom. Along with the delight of a new home, Jeremy and I were able to enjoy our time off together this summer, since Jeremy is also a teacher. Currently, he is in his sixth year of teaching seventh grade Earth Science at Southern Middle School! It has truly been a joy sharing our middle school teaching experiences with one another!

In my spare time, I enjoy various activities like scrapbooking, four-wheeling, traveling, spending time with friends and family, and playing various sports. Another huge interest is watching college football. It is widely known that I am a die-hard Notre Dame fan. However, Penn State football has grown on me, since Jeremy introduced me to the energetic atmosphere at Beaver Stadium. I cannot wait for another great, successful season of Irish and Nittany Lion football!

Along with learning more about me, it is valuable to share information about my sixth grade mathematics classroom as well. The students will work with many different concepts this year, such as order of operations, measurement, perimeter/area, box plots, histograms, coordinate graphing, and ratios, to name a few. We will also focus on math applications, so the students can witness the relevancy of math in their daily lives. They will be responsible for keeping a math binder to help organize their materials. I encourage you to check this periodically to see what topics we are covering. You can also check out my class website by going to mrslatimersmathclass.weebly.com. The password is **Hershey**.

To help support your child's education, it is beneficial to work together. To ensure optimal learning opportunities, it is essential for the students to follow classroom expectations. These guidelines are attached, so it would be helpful if you went over them with your child. In addition, to keep you informed on your child's progress in the classroom, there are a variety of technology resources that can be accessed from home. A list of the technological tools, along with descriptions of the resources, has been attached as well. Feel free to use them at your convenience.

I am looking forward to meeting you again or for the first time at Back to School Night, Thursday, September 12th at 6:30 pm. Please feel free to contact me at 531-2222 ext. 4005 or at slatimer@hershey.k12.pa.us.

Sincerely,



Stacey Latimer



Classroom Procedures and Expectations

1. **BE RESPONSIBLE.** Upon entering the classroom, locate your seat as quickly and quietly as possible.
2. **BE PREPARED!** Once you are seated, get your materials out immediately and wait for class to begin. Have any assigned homework out and ready to be checked. Sharpen your pencil before class begins!
3. **SHOW RESPECT** for others and their property. Be on your best behavior and treat others as you would want to be treated, or you will jeopardize your own classroom freedoms.
4. Do your **OWN WORK.** All parties involved in cheating will receive corresponding consequences.
5. **Work** only with your **assigned team** during class work. Distracting other students from other groups will not be tolerated and appropriate disciplinary actions will be taken.
6. **BE ORGANIZED.** Textbooks **MUST** be located inside your binder at all times. Textbooks placed independently in lockers and book bags **will not** be accepted. Depending on damages, one can be charged for a replacement book, if these guidelines are not followed.

Homework, Grading, and Absentee Policies

1. Your mathematics grade will be established based on class projects, homework, quizzes, and tests.
2. All assignments are expected to be finished on time and present on the due date. Homework will either be collected or checked for completeness. At the end of each marking period, a homework grade, which is 10% of the overall grade, will be given.
3. If your homework is not completed by the due date, you will receive an email notification. After the first two missing assignments, students will receive lunch detention for every additional missing assignment. If homework assignments continue to be late, further disciplinary actions will be taken. All obligations can be worked on during flex and shown to Mrs. Latimer, in order to be removed from the Team Monsoon list of owed work.
4. When you are absent from class, all make-up work is your responsibility. Please see Mrs. Latimer to determine what work will be missed **before** an absence, if you have a known early dismissal, excused trip, music lesson, or enrichment class.
5. When you return after an absence, locate the absentee form that was completed by your teammate in your period's "While You Were Out" folder located by the AC unit in the back of the room. The absentee form will tell you exactly what we did in class as well as any homework that was assigned. If any worksheets were handed out in class, they will be attached to the absentee form, too. It is your responsibility to hand in any missed homework assignments. I will not ask you for make-up work.

Mathematics Notebook

1. All students must obtain a 2-inch, 3-ring binder, which will contain four sections: Warm-up Problems, Classwork and Practice Problems, Homework, and Graded Work. The divider sheets will be provided to the students. In addition, the students will receive three composition notebooks: a brainteaser composition book, a classwork composition book, and a homework composition book. Each of the composition books must be present in their appropriate section of the student's binder at all times.
2. Keep your binder organized at all times!

In all situations, special circumstances will be considered on an individual basis.

List of Technology Resources

Team Weebly – <http://hmsmonsoon.weebly.com/>

- Weebly gives everyone the freedom to start a site or blog that works brilliantly across computers, phones, and tablets. Weebly has everything you need to plan, build, publish, and grow a site that meets your goals.

In math – The team Weebly will be used to post the daily and weekly homework assignments.

TEAM WEEBLY



Math Weebly – <http://mrslatimersmathclass.weebly.com/>

- Weebly gives everyone the freedom to start a site or blog that works brilliantly across computers, phones, and tablets. Weebly has everything you need to plan, build, publish, and grow a site that meets your goals.

In math – All students will have access to mathematics resources, videos, homework assignments and answer keys, study guides and answer keys, and practice assessments through the class Weebly. Students can also access class work and homework assignments.

MATH WEEBLY



Math Canvas – <https://hersheyk12.instructure.com/enroll/A4FHDN>

- Canvas is designed specifically for K-12 teachers and students. It is an easy-to-use, cloud-based learning management system (LMS) that connects all the digital tools and resources teachers use into one simple place. It integrates seamlessly with hundreds of apps, empowering teachers and students with countless tools to make teaching and learning easier and more fun.

In math – All students will have access to mathematics resources, videos, homework assignments and answer keys, study guides and answer keys, and practice assessments through the class Canvas. Students can also access class work and homework assignments.

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Khan Academy – <https://www.khanacademy.org>

- Khan Academy offers practice exercises, instructional videos, and a personalized learning dashboard, empowering learners to study at their own pace in and out of the classroom. The math missions guide learners from kindergarten to calculus using adaptive technology that identifies strengths and learning gaps.

In math – All students will have access to mathematics resources, videos, practice questions, and helpful tips.

KHAN
ACADEMY

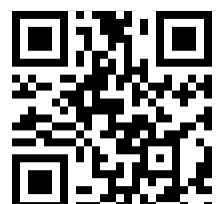


Quizizz – <https://quizizz.com>

- Quizizz allows you to conduct **student-paced formative assessments** in a **fun** and engaging way for students of all ages. This tool offers free gamified quizzes for every subject to play in class and at home. Pick an existing quiz or create your own for review, formative assessment, and more.

In math – Students will be given Quizizz assignments that focus on specific mathematics standards. Additional support will be given for struggling students.

QUIZIZZ



Quizlet – <https://quizlet.com>

- **Quizlet** is a mobile and web-based study application that allows students to study information via learning tools and games, such as flashcards, matching, writing, and live mode, to name a few.

In math – Students will be given Quizlet assignments and activities during class and for homework that focus on specific mathematics standards. Additional support will be given for struggling students.

QUIZLET



Kahoot! – <https://kahoot.com>

- **Kahoot!** is a tool for using technology to administer quizzes, discussions or surveys. It is a game based classroom response system played by the whole class in real time. Multiple-choice questions are projected on the screen. Students answer the questions with their smartphone, tablet or computer.

In math – Students will be respond to questions projected through Kahoot! on math concepts. The students' responses will be used to alter instruction based on the students' needs.

KAHOOT!



Home Access

- Derry Township's School District's Home Access Center (HAC) allows parents to access their child's report card grades (grades 6-12), discipline records, class assignment grades, attendance, and other general student information over the Internet. To access the information on your child during the school year, log on to HAC with your individual username and password. (An individual login is provided to all parent(s)/guardian(s) recorded in our Student Information System.) If you have any questions or need assistance with HAC, please contact the HAC Help Desk by emailing hachelp@hershey.k12.pa.us.

In math – All grades for the course will be posted on HAC.

HOME ACCESS



CPM eBook – <http://textbooks.cpm.org>

Period 1: 3NCQL

Period 6: SLV6M

Period 2: HK6QK

Period 7: TLRSR

CPM eBook



Classroom Resources

- From time to time, the students will be asked to access the following resources in class with their device

- **Lino** – an online web sticky note service that can be used to post memos, to-do lists, ideas, and photos anywhere on an online web canvas.
- **CK-12** – provides a library of free online textbooks, videos, exercises, flashcards, and real world applications for over 5000 concepts from arithmetic to science to history to English, to name a few. Schools are now starting to use their materials to create custom etextbooks. It truly is an amazing collection of great tools for teachers, students, and parents.
- **Nearpod** – designed for teachers, to create, engage and assess through the use of mobile devices.

Communication Tool

Remind – <https://www.remind.com>

- Remind is a service that provides a safe way for teachers to text message students and parents, in order to remind them of upcoming assignments, events, etc. Remind allows teachers to create an unlimited number of classes for students and parents to subscribe to. This ensures that each student/parent only receives messages from the classes they are involved with. Using Remind, teachers can engage their students and parents more effectively without using personal phone numbers.

In math – The communication tool is used to inform parents of upcoming assessments as well as reminders when forms and/or other school-related paperwork needs to be returned.

How do I sign up?

- **If you have a smartphone, get notifications by using the following steps or by scanning the QR Code.**

Step 1: On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to one of the following links:

- **Period 1 Math:** rmd.at/slatimer1
- **Period 2 Math:** rmd.at/slatimer2
- **Period 6 Math:** rmd.at/slatimer6
- **Period 7 Math:** rmd.at/slatimer7

Step 2: When prompted, enter your first and last name as well as your phone number or email address.

Step 3: You are now set up to receive reminders as text messages!

Period 1:



Period 2:



Period 6:



Period 7:



- **If you *DO NOT* have a smartphone, get notifications by using the following steps.**

Step 1: Text the exact message to the number listed below for the class period your child has math.

- **Period 1 Math:** Text the Message @slatimer1 to 81010
- **Period 2 Math:** Text the Message @slatimer2 to 81010
- **Period 6 Math:** Text the Message @slatimer6 to 81010
- **Period 7 Math:** Text the Message @slatimer7 to 81010

Step 2: You *MAY* be asked for your name.

- If you are a student, please enter your full name (i.e. John Smith).
- If you are a parent, please enter PO (Parent of) before your child's name (i.e. PO John Smith).

Step 3: You are now set up to receive reminders as text messages!

Don't have a mobile phone? Sign up for email notifications by going to rmd.at/slatimer1 (Period 1 Math) / rmd.at/slatimer2 (Period 2 Math) / rmd.at/slatimer6 (Period 6 Math) / rmd.at/slatimer7 (Period 7 Math).