**Mrs. Rachel Patterson**

**Dickson Middle School**

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**Course Description:** Pre-Algebra is a rigorous course designed to prepare students for the Algebra 1 curriculum. Students use linear functions, linear equations, and systems of equations to represent, analyze, and solve a variety of problems. Students extend their understanding of slope as a constant rate of change and use slope to analyze situations and solve problems. They apply the Pythagorean Theorem to find distances between points in the coordinate plane to measure lengths and analyze polygons and polyhedra.

**Materials Needed:**

* + Composition Notebook
  + Pencils
  + Paper
  + 2 Pocket Folder
  + Crayons or colored pencils, post its, and a ruler would also be helpful.
  + Calculator (TI-34)

**Assessment:**

* All assignments, activities, and assessments will build upon each other. Homework is practice for quizzes, which are practices for exams.
* Students should expect to be successful in this class. Failure is not an option. If a student does not do well on an assignment, quiz, or test, the student will have the opportunity to redo the assignment or retake a similar test/quiz for extra points or grade replacement.
* Grades will be calculated using the following:

50% Tests

30% Quizzes

20% Homework/Classwork

**General Expectations:**

* Work must be completed in **PENCIL** only, unless a student is doing a Re-do correction, which is to be done in red pen.
* Students are to **SHOW ALL WORK**. If a student writes only an answer, no credit will be received.
* **EVERY** problem on an assignment **must** be attempted. Students who leave problems blank or un-attempted will not receive credit for completing the assignment.
* Assignments are expected to be completed by the specified class period.
  + Communication – I am available by calling the office (594-1300); however, e-mail is the **best** way to get a message to me: rpatterson@dcbe.org . My goal is to reply to any message left for me within 48 hours.
  + Extra help – I will be available for help Monday – Thursday until 4:00. In the case of an appointment or meeting, I will give students at least 1 day notice. Additionally, school-wide tutoring is also available.