



SAMPLE MATERIAL

Homework Trouble Sheet: Eighth-Grade Mathematics

Dodge Renaissance Academy, Illinois

Topic: Turning Around Chronically Low-Performing Schools

Practice: Focus on Instruction

This document is used by students who are having trouble answering questions on their homework. Students are expected to have their homework assignments completed on the due date. However, if a student is having trouble answering a problem, they may fill out this sheet that allows them to have their homework excused for one day and get extra help from a tutor either before or after school. Students must fill out this sheet before having their homework excused. In their own words, students explain what the problem is, list the information they already have that may help them solve the problem, and show their work and the strategies they have tried to solve the problem. In signing this document, students agree to come to the tutoring session on time and agree to work with the tutor assigned. A parent must also sign the document.



HOMWORK TROUBLE SHEET — 8TH GRADE MATHEMATICS

Name: _____ Date: _____ Room: _____

Before the assignment can be excused and the tutoring session can be initiated, the student must fill out the entire trouble sheet.

The assigned work for last night was (include problems and page numbers, as well as the book title):

Explain what the problem is asking (in your own words).

Explain what information is given in your book that may help you understand the question.

Explain what you already know that could help. (Think about what we're doing in class, and use the notes we took in class.)

Check which strategy you tried first:

- Guess and check
- Make an organized list
- Make a table
- Draw a diagram/picture
- Work backwards

- Write an equation
- Solve a simpler problem
- Find a pattern
- Other: _____

Show the work that you have done so far, to share in your tutoring session:

I know that what I did isn't working because:

Check which strategy you tried next:

- Guess and check
- Make an organized list
- Make a table
- Draw a diagram/picture

- Work backwards
- Write an equation
- Solve a simpler problem
- Find a pattern
- Other: _____

Show any other work that you did for this problem, with the question that you worked on:

How do you know that this didn't work either?

I would like to meet with a tutor at:

- 8:30 am tomorrow
- 2:45 pm tomorrow.

By signing below, I agree to meet with my tutor at the assigned time above. I also agree to work with the tutor assigned for that day, and arrive on time to my session. I understand that I will receive no credit for the assignment if I am late, if I fail to complete the whole sheet or if I refuse to work with the assigned tutor.

Student Signature

Parent Signature (required for tutoring):

Phone # (if after school):
