

Dear Parent:

I am looking forward to having your child in Honors Precalculus this year. This course will contain the advanced algebra and trigonometry that will prepare your student for Calculus or College Algebra. I hope that your child will have a love of mathematics or at least develop an appreciation for the importance of this subject matter.

Because of my part-time status, it will be difficult to reach me by phone. If we need to talk, I ask that you initially contact me by email, and I will call you by the next work day. I can be reached at lynncantrell@pickenscountyschools.org.

I look forward to your child's successful completion of this math course!

Students (and Parents):

Precalculus will be the most difficult math course you have experienced thus far in your high school career. If you are struggling, you should be mature enough at this point to ask for extra help. Because I work the first half of the school day, I am only available to give extra help before school starts for the day. However, there is after-school tutoring available Monday through Thursday with other math teachers.

NOTEBOOKS

A notebook is required for this class. It MUST be a 2" (or larger) three ring binder containing loose-leaf paper. The notebook will be used to keep assignments, tests, and any other handouts given to you. Assignments may be completed on the back of pages, but do not start any assignment on the back of a sheet of paper. They should be labeled with the date and the page number of the assignment.

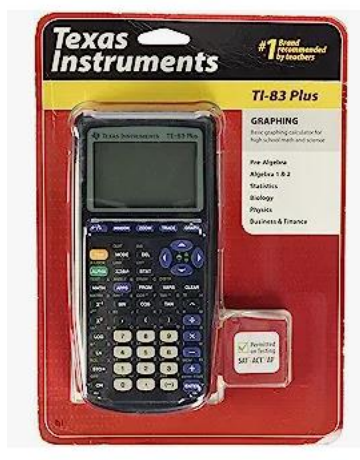
You will be able to use your notebooks to assist you on "Weekly Assignments", but you can't use them for tests. I sometimes take up notebooks and grade them for completion. Please bring them with you every day.

CALCULATORS

You are in a college-prep math course. As such, I expect you to come to class prepared. A graphing calculator is required for this course. You will need it during class and for homework, so this is part of the material that you should be bringing with you every day.

These calculators may be purchased at stores like CVS, WalMart, Staples, and Amazon for costs ranging from \$70 to \$150 depending on the model you choose. If you cannot afford to purchase your own, I have a limited number that I can check out to you. These will be issued on first come, first served basis. See me for a checkout form if you need one.

If you purchase your own, I STRONGLY recommend a TI-83, 84, or 86 for this course. While models other than Texas Instrument or the TI-89 are acceptable, I have found that the suggested models are the most "user-friendly". If you don't have one of the suggested models, I may not be able to help you with your particular calculator, hence, you should keep your manual with you at all times.



CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

DAILY BEHAVIOR

- 1) PLEASE come to class prepared! This means you should have a PENCIL, paper, notebook, calculator, and textbook. Bring all of these items with you each day. I will not supply them for you.
- 2) PLEASE be on time!!! My door will be closed as the bell begins ringing. I expect you to be in your assigned seat and ready to begin working.
- 3) ABSOLUTELY NO TALKING DURING ANNOUNCEMENTS!!!
- 4) PHONES/EAR BUDS/TABLETS/CHROMEBOOKS
These items must be in your purse or back pack. Not in your pocket. Not turned upside down on your desk. You cannot take them with you when you leave to go to the restroom. There will be RARE occasions when I ask you to use them or allow you to use them. It will be abundantly clear in those instances that you have permission to use them. You will hear me say "Take our your Chromebook (or phone or...)". If those words didn't come out of my mouth, don't let me see your devices
- 5) PLEASE show respect for the other members of this class and me. I am not asking that you "like" me, because some of you won't. I am not asking that you "like" all of your classmates, because you won't. What I am asking is that you be courteous to all of those present. We have almost an hour and a half daily to spend with each other, and it is imperative that we can get along.

How do you show courtesy???

- *Unless you have an emergency, don't talk or get out of your seat while I'm teaching.
- *Don't ask questions that have nothing to do with the lesson while I'm teaching.
- *Don't write on or erase either board unless I instruct you to do so.
- *Don't touch anything on, in, beside, or behind either teacher desk unless I ask you to do so.
- *Don't make rude or obnoxious comments to or about other people (students or staff) while you are in this room.
- *Don't work on any material other than math unless you have completely finished any assignment I gave you.
- *If you make a mess with food or drink (or anything else), expect to clean it up.

ABSENCES

Be present as much as possible. Mathematics, unlike some other subjects, is not something that is easily learned by studying on your own. Makeup work is the sole responsibility of the student. If you must be absent, check Canvas to see what you missed. Per student handbook, you have 5 days from the time you return to school to request makeup work (any hard copies you couldn't locate in Canvas or to schedule a day to make up test/quizzes). The handbook allows me 3 days to provide those materials to you. If you fail to make up your work in a timely manner, you will still be allowed to make up the assignment (though it will be an alternate version) for a 20-point penalty. I will not accept any late work the last week of the semester.

GRADING

Assignments will be given EVERY day but will not always be graded. Time will be given during class to begin these assignments, but anything not finished in class must be taken care of at home. Many students (and parents) wonder "why bother?" if it won't be graded. It is so very important in mathematics that you learn and practice a new skill before moving on to the next one. Homework is not punishment. It is your "practice" session. You will have an opportunity the next day to ask for help on any problems you were unable to successfully complete before being quizzed over the material.

Formative grades consist of homework, quizzes, vocabulary quizzes, and weekly assignments. Summative grades are tests, notebook checks, and projects.

Your nine weeks' average will be calculated as follows:

Tests: 40%
Daily: 60%

Your final average will be calculated as follows:

Semester grade: 80%
plus Exam: 20%

EXTRA CREDIT

Don't ask for bonus work. The answer will be no. Occasionally, I give the entire class an opportunity for extra credit (usually Progress Learning or IXL). That is the time to do it. In addition, if you are doing what I ask of you during class, there should be no need for bonuses.

You will be given ten passes at the beginning of the course. You may use these passes to go the restroom, the counselor, the library, etc. Use them wisely. At the end of the semester, each unused pass that you return to me will be worth extra credit.

I HOPE WE HAVE A GREAT SEMESTER!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!