

Geometry

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Welcome to geometry! I am looking forward to working together on lessons that will deepen mathematical understanding, strengthen algebraic skills and prepare students for college and the SAT/ACT.

CLASS EXPECTATIONS

Students should come to class prepared with any assignment that is due and ready to work. I expect that students will:

- Listen, pay attention, and participate
- Work together and help one another
- Ask questions
- Allow each other to participate in the learning process (do not disrupt class or others)
- Respect each other and the fact that we all learn in different ways and at different rates

GRADING

The math department has a standard weighted averages grading practice for college prep courses:

Card Marking Grades: 80% Assessments (tests/quizzes); 20% Assignments (homework, classwork, notebooks, etc.)

Semester Grades: 40% Card Marking 1, 40% Card Marking 2, 20% Final Exam

Grading Scale:	A	92.5 – 100	A-	89.5 – 92	
B+	86.5 – 89	B	82.5 – 86	B-	79.5 – 82
C+	76.5 – 79	C	72.5 – 76	C-	69.5 – 72
D+	66.5 – 69	D	62.5 – 66	D-	59.5 – 62

HOMEWORK/PRACTICE

Homework is assigned most days. Students are expected to spend approximately 20-30 minutes on math work at home. **If an assignment is taking significantly more time, please have an adult put a note on the assignment and bring it to class.** The purpose of the homework is to provide additional practice to build fluency and efficiency. It is not meant to add anxiety or stress to what can be a difficult topic for some students. If homework is taking a long time, please contact me so we can discuss the situation. Homework that is turned in late will not be given full credit. This semester, homework will be graded in three different ways: for points given for attempting each problem the day it is due, at the end of a unit for completion and correctness, or for accuracy on unannounced homework “quizzes” where students will need to copy down specific problems from previously completed and corrected homework assignments. Not every assignment will be graded this semester.

Please note that the **vocabulary is a very critical part of this course** – especially in the first few months. It is important that students practice vocabulary words often to be prepared for homework, classwork and assessments. Students will be given lists, apps, and sometimes flashcards that should be practiced at home in addition or as part of regular homework. If you have questions about how to best practice vocabulary for this course, please contact me.

CELL PHONE POLICY

Students are not allowed to use their phones in this class unless specifically given permission for a class assignment. Since most students are proficient in cell phone use and have access to them at school, I have found that using hand held devices in class for specific purposes enhances to the learning environment. Our new textbook has many options that include accessing the text and resources via the internet and apps; however, they should be accessing those resources only during specified class times. If we are not using phones/tablets for class purposes, students should not have their phones out. **If I see a phone (or can tell they are using it under their desk) during the restricted time, students will be required to let BOTH parents/guardians know by sending them a text and copying me. I expect that a parent will respond that they acknowledge this and address it with their child.** Often, students tell me that they are responding to parent messages – please do not expect your child to respond to you during my class. If you need to get a message to them, contact the office and they will be sure they get it. Cell phone use for class activities is completely voluntary and is NOT a requirement.

ATTENDANCE

I expect that students complete all homework from days absent from class. **If students are absent on a test or quiz day, they are responsible for the test or quiz the day they return** (provided the assessment was announced prior to the absence). Excessive absences may affect a students' ability to earn credit for work that is missed on those days (including tests/quizzes). Students and parents will be notified if absences and/or tardies become a problem and if grades will be effective.

ADDITIONAL HELP AND/OR PRACTICE

- I am available after school until at least 3:00 at least 2 days a week – a schedule is posted on my board in my classroom each week.
- I typically hold “study sessions” after school prior to every quiz or test. All students are encouraged to attend for extra practice. I will emphasis strategies for problems that are similar to those on the assessment during this time.
- One-on-one student tutoring is available at lunch and after school. As the schedule is shared, I will pass it along.
- The textbook has several online videos, hints and opportunities for additional individual support. Please let me know if you need help accessing these resources.
- **I also check email from home frequently. Students can email or text me using Remind with any questions or concerns, and I will try to respond quickly.**
- Please feel free to contact me should any concerns arise. It is important for us to communicate sooner rather than later so please do not hesitate to just “check in” with me if you notice any sort of struggle.

TEXTBOOK

Students are required to have their textbook with them during class. The book is available online so students can leave the book at school if they are comfortable using the online resources. Many assignments will be from the book but I will usually post a pdf of the pages on Google Classroom. Information for accessing the book will be provided to each student on the first day – and is also available on Google Classroom.

CALCULATORS

Students will have access to calculators in the classroom for problems that require calculator use. However, there will be many assignments and quizzes where they will not be allowed to use calculators. If you student struggles with basic arithmetic and fraction operations, please let me know so I can provide some practice and/or online resources.

CLASS SUPPLIES

Individual student supplies requested for each student by Monday, September 13, include:

- **Pencils**
- **A three-ring binder (1 ½” durable!) with 5 divider tabs**
- **Loose leaf paper in the binder for homework assignments**
- **Colored pencils or fine tip makers (I like flair pens! I do a lot of notes in color.)**
- **A protractor, compass and ruler will be helpful at home but available in class.**
- **A book cover that is either purchased or made from a paper grocery bag! (I will show how to do this in class on Monday, September 13.)**

Any of these classroom supplies are greatly appreciated and used frequently: Dry erase markers for classroom use, box of tissue, and disinfecting wipes.

The math department uses the proofs of purchase points from Texas Instruments calculators. We are able to redeem them for additional calculators and classroom technology. If you purchase a calculator, please turn that in to me!

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

TECHNOLOGY: Students will be asked to access the internet to use for class including: Pearson Realize (online book and related assignments and support), Google Classroom, and Remind. **If students do not have the ability to do so from home, please let me know so I can make the appropriate accommodations.**

REMIND: Remind allows me to send a group text message out to all subscribers. I use this to remind students and parents of upcoming tests and quizzes, send out answer, and remind students of afterschool availability. Students can also use this to text me questions about homework or other classroom concerns. **To sign up for these reminders, send a text to: 81010 and type @ablergeo in the message area!** Again, for individual questions or concerns, please email me.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. The earlier we work together, the more success students will have! Email is the best way to contact me. Messages can also be left for me in the business office.