

Geometry

2016-2017

Mrs. Wakefield

This course is designed to prepare you for future math courses and for taking the ACT. A scientific calculator is recommended for use in this class. I suggest a TI-30XS as it is very user friendly. Instructions given in class will be for this calculator, if you choose to use a different one, make sure that you know how to use it. **Grades:** Letter grades use the standard SCHS scale. **Points** accumulated for grades are weighted:

| | |
|----------|-----|
| Tests | 60% |
| Quizzes | 20% |
| Homework | 20% |

Points, not letter grades, from each test, quiz and homework assignment are added for the grading period. Tests and quizzes vary in point values. Grades on-line are updated after each chapter test; usually more frequently.

Homework: To learn math mechanics, *you need to practice*; you need to make some mistakes, then understand how to correct them. Homework is graded on a scale 1 to 5:

| Grade | Problems Attempted | Work Shown | Correct Answers |
|-------|--------------------|------------|--------------------|
| 5 | ALL | ALL | MOST |
| 4 | SUBSTANTIALLY All | ALL | MAJORITY |
| 3 | MAJORITY | MOST | SIGNIFICANT Number |
| 2 | MORE than a Few | SOME | SOME |
| 1 | A FEW | SOME | A FEW |
| | | | |

NO CREDIT is given for a page of answers with no supporting written work. (some will not require work, I will let you know in advance)

Homework is expected to be turned-in *on time*. We will briefly check homework in class; your work must be completed *before* we check it. **Mark your homework errors as we check them.** Credit will be *reduced* for un-graded or incorrectly graded homework. *Late* homework should be turned in by the *next* class period after it was due and will be worth 50%. We do not have time in class to rework every homework problem, so if you have questions about several homework problems, it is wise to come get help **before class**. If you are “stuck” on a homework assignment, DO SOMETHING to get help: See Mrs. Wakefield, call a friend, read the textbook, look online at worked examples. There is NOT enough time at the beginning of the next class to REteach the previous lesson, so you need to get help *before* the next class.

Guidelines for homework:

1. Use **PENCIL** only.
2. Do NOT write Answers SEPARATE from work; keep them TOGETHER.
3. Use only TWO columns on a page and leave at least one line between problems.
4. Put a QUESTION MARK next to problems you don't understand. Strike through the MARK as your questions are answered.
6. Include the **PAGE** Number of the ASSIGNMENT along with your name at the TOP of the Page.
7. Answers must MATCH supporting work.
8. Be NEAT and ORGANIZED. I can't give credit for what I can't read or follow.

Attendance: Homework from a class due to a school activity should be turned in prior to the trip. Homework from an illness is due the 2nd class after you return. **I will NOT remind you about missing grades; they will be recorded as ZERO!** If you have multiple consecutive days of absence, you may need help to understand the

missed lessons and complete the homework. In such cases, we *may* be able to work out some alternative due dates, *however*, it is *your responsibility* to discuss these issues with me *as soon as possible*. Making up homework is **YOUR** responsibility.

As we start a new chapter, you will receive a chapter plan that identifies the pages of your textbook and homework assignments for each class. If you are absent, you are responsible to keep up with the plan. If you miss the review class, you must still take the test on the scheduled date unless you make arrangements with me **before** class.

Tardy means you are *not in your seat* when the bell sounds. **When you enter class, please be seated and get your homework ready to check.**

Importance of Taking NOTES: Inevitably, something that seemed clear in class becomes confusing when you work homework problems or study for a test or quiz. Prepare for this by taking appropriate notes in class. We work problems in class that are examples for your study. The quality of your notes affects the ease of solving your homework and preparing for tests. **Not everything we say in class is in the textbook – you need notes if you want to review it!**

USE YOUR TEXTBOOK: Read the highlighted parts **BEFORE** class. Study the examples. Check the odd-numbered problems to answers in the back of the book. Try extra practice problems in the back.

BEWARE: Most people can't cram their math studies. You never know what problem is going to stump you. Leaving your studies until just before class or only allowing 15 minutes to get your work done is a poor strategy. Work some homework the *same day* we studied it, if possible.

If you use a tutor, do your homework **BEFORE** meeting the tutor. This way you can focus on your mistakes or misunderstandings.

What to Bring to Class: *Everyday* you should bring your textbook, pencil, paper, *eraser*, and **a calculator**. Those are *your* responsibility. If we are taking a quiz or test that day, please bring a book or other work to study after completing the test.

Semester Final Exams: As most mathematical topics depend on mastery of previous topics, finals will be comprehensive.

Cheating: SCHS has severe penalties for cheating. Please see the student handbook for details. You cannot survive mathematics relying on cheating; don't try. If you copy another student's homework – you **both** are cheating and will be subject to the consequences.

Getting HELP: Whenever possible, I like helping you solve math problems. Most days, I arrive at school by 7:20 a.m and do not leave before 3:30 pm. Take advantage of LEAD time to get help on assignments.

If there is time to work on homework during class, it is to be used to do the assignment.

If you use the Glencoe website, you will find multiple resources at your disposal. There are extra examples, a personal tutor that talks you through an example, practice quizzes and practice chapter tests. Please use these to help you prepare for the quizzes and the chapter tests. You will find additional resources on the weebly page as well as the Chapter Guides.

http://glencoe.mheducation.com/sites/0078738181/student_view0/index.html