



KINNELON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT

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Calculator Use Overview (Grades 6-12)

In each mathematics classroom, grades 6 through 12, calculators will be used at some point during the year and it is important that each student has access to the proper device and that they are using it appropriately. Although students can access various calculator apps on their chromebooks, we encourage parents to purchase a handheld calculator for at home use throughout the years at each school. The recommended calculators for each level are outlined below:

Math 6 - 8 / PreAlgebra	TI-34 MultiView Scientific Calculator
Algebra I - PreCalculus /AP Statistics	TI-84 Plus Graphing Calculator
Calculus and Beyond	TI-NSpire CX II Graphing Calculator / TI-89 Titanium Graphing Calculator

Students may use their personally purchased calculators **during specific lessons, homework and assessments at the discretion of the classroom teacher.** They may also be used on the calculator sections of standardized assessments such as the NJSLA/NJGPA. A graphing calculator will continue to be useful on the College Board assessments such as AP, PSAT, SAT, and ACT and subsequently in college math courses.

Calculators' specific use in our mathematics classrooms is selective and strategic. At the high school level, graphing calculators will be used to check algebraic solutions, to find solutions graphically, to graph functions and more.; they may also be used in the classroom for students to explore patterns and relationships. At the middle school level, many of the skills that are taught are computational in nature and will require students to have accurate methods of pencil-and-paper calculations. For the duration of these units students will not be permitted calculator use and should only be used at home for checking answers. During the middle school geometry units, students are learning to apply formulas and are working with larger numbers, therefore computation is not the skill being taught and calculators may be utilized to solve problems in a more efficient manner.

Although calculators have tremendous benefits in the mathematics classroom, dependency for simple computations should be avoided. Together we can ensure that these tools are being used correctly to help promote student learning and mastery of mathematics to the highest level. Please feel free to reach out to your student's math teacher directly for any additional questions about calculator use in their classroom.