

Dear Parent(s) / Guardian(s),

I am really looking forward to working with your child this year in Practical Geometry and believe that, as a team, we can all work together to help your child to gain confidence and achieve great success in class this year.

I strongly believe that the only way for students to truly develop a deep understanding for the math content is by DOING! For this reason, students will be given a great deal of in-class time to work through these practices. This time will allow students to not only work through tasks independently, but also have the opportunity to ask questions when they either need further clarification or additional assistance in solving the problems. The classroom instructional and learning tools will be centered around a great deal of mathematical practice through individual instructor-monitored practice, group discussion, exploration and discovery learning, and error analysis. In order for this type of learning to be possible it is essential that our classroom environment is a safe space in which all of the students feel comfortable making mistakes and analyzing them as they build their mathematical knowledge. Students will be required to give constructive feedback to their peers as they work to learn from one another. Students who are **prompt, present(prepared), polite, positive, and productive** will allow our class to find success as a whole.

Students will be assessed daily through participation, in-class work, activities, and homework. This practice will allow them to make mistakes, ask questions, correct their errors, and build conceptual understanding of mathematics. Homework in DeltaMath, in class activities, check for understanding questions, and other worksheets will be given periodically throughout each unit in order to further assess progress and remediate concepts as needed prior to a summative assessment. Finally, summative assessments in the form of spot checks or unit tests or projects will be given to assess overall learning on specific objectives. There will be time to review and a class review session will be provided prior to each test to assist students. It is my goal to supply the information necessary to ensure students have access to what they need in order to reach their highest potential.

To ensure that your student has the best possible experience in my classroom, we will work as a class to create a safe, open, and expressive environment in which everyone feels comfortable exploring, questioning, and making mistakes. In addition, we will also learn to use different types of technologies pertaining to math, such as calculators. To give your child the best chance to take advantage of these opportunities, please ensure that they come to school with either a **TI-30XS Multiview** or **TI-36x Pro**, both of which are around \$15-\$20. If this constitutes an obstacle, please let us know and rest assured that we will work with your child to find a solution.

Based on Washington Community High School's Philosophy Statement, we want to ensure that when your high schooler leaves our class, he/she is well on his/her way to becoming life-long learners. Therefore, here are several ways in which students can look for extra learning assistance while outside our classroom.

- Visit our Google Classroom site for materials and assignments for each class period. Guided notes to correspond to these lessons are also provided and serve as a textbook resource for students to reference at any time.
- Utilize a digital instructional resource such as mathopenref.com, Khan Academy, learnzillion.com, wolframalpha.com, slader.com, or YouTube to see additional examples.
- Email me. I pride myself on quick responses and will be sure to respond in a timely manner, though emails received after school hours may not be read until the following morning.
- Schedule an appointment with me before school or after school for additional help regarding specific concepts or questions.

Please feel free to email (rjbarth@wacohi.net) or call me at (309) 444-3167 ext. 1246 with additional questions or concerns or visit our Google Classroom page. In addition, I will post weekly agendas to my website. This may be a helpful tool to parents who are working to help keep students on track. I am looking forward to a great year!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Becca Barth