

Mr. Stephenson's 2008-2009 Classroom Management Plan

LHS Mission: Commitment to excellence in everything we do: academics, activities, and citizenship.

I. Academic Areas

a. Course Overviews

1. Advanced Math Functions, College, 1421 & 1422

This course sequence is designed for college bound juniors and seniors who need to strengthen mathematical skills and prepare for the SAT and for upper level math courses. It focuses on functions (linear, polynomial, and exponential) and coordinate geometry. In addition, topics from functional analysis (pre-calculus) are covered. Topics from analytic geometry and trigonometry are either introduced or reviewed, as needed.

2. Precalculus, College, 1441 & 1442

In this course sequence analytic geometry and trigonometry are emphasized, though not covered exclusively. Analytic geometry is studied using both rectangular and polar coordinates. Special attention is given to the second-degree equations that describe the conic sections. The properties of parabolas, hyperbolas, circles and ellipses are studied in detail. Other functions are studied, especially exponential and logarithmic. Introductions to concepts of limits and continuity of functions are included. The trigonometric functions are defined and discussed, trigonometric identities are studied, and a variety of standard problems involving the use of trigonometric functions are solved. A deeper understanding of angles is pursued.

3. Fundamentals of Calculus, Honors, 1521 & 1522

Limits and topics of differential and integral calculus are covered. There is more emphasis on problem solving than on theory.

b. Grades

1. Students' grades each quarter will be calculated using these weights and categories:

25% Homework, 25% Quizzes (2), 25% Mid-quarter Test, and 25% Final Exam.

Any Classwork will be scored as additional Homework, and any Projects will be scored as additional Quizzes with total points depending on scope.

2. Grades and attendance will be kept in <http://www.MyGradeBook.com>. A student's 10-digit password is their capitalized first and last initials followed by their numeric birthdate, in the format FLyyyyymmdd. Also needed are Classwords, which will be posted on Mr. Stephenson's web site, <http://sks23cu.net/MT/>. **Students and parents should add their email addresses into MyGradeBook** in order to receive notifications of absences, tardies, and grade postings.

c. Homework

Homework is usually assigned daily. Assignment lists are posted on Mr. Stephenson's web site. In class the day after homework is assigned, students are encouraged to ask questions to clear up any confusion. The homework can then be revised that evening and passed in to the teacher at the **beginning** of the next class. Students should not divert their attention away from classroom activities by doing homework in class. The value of homework is in helping students learn *how* to solve math problems, *not* in finding specific answers. If students can't do new similar problems, then they haven't done their homework well enough.

d. Make-up work

1. Quizzes and Tests can be made up within five (5) school days of the student's return from an absence designated as non-truant (excused or parent note in x2, the student records database).
2. Project due dates will be extended by the length of time of a student's non-truant absence.
3. The Quarter Exam can be made up during its scheduled make-up time if the absence isn't truant.

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e. Extra help

1. The Library Tutoring Program should begin soon after the start of the school year. There may also be peer tutoring from students that have taken your course before.
2. Mr. Stephenson can be available after school – just ask.

II. Expectations

1. Students are expected to respect the persons and property of others, to be courteous and civil to all, and to follow the rules of the Student Handbook. Violation of Student Handbook rules result in Administrative Action Reports, *Offense Cards*, documented in the Comments section of MyGradebook and totaled in a non-weighted category called Total Offenses.
2. Students are to take notes in a single subject spiral notebook dedicated to math. Students should also collect and keep all their other math work and class handouts in a chronological arranged three ring binder, trapper, folder, or large envelope (including all graded assessments).

Bring the student's math notebook and collected works to any and all meetings with the teacher so that the student's level of effort can be assessed.

III. Attendance

Attendance will be taken five minutes after the bell that ends the previous period, and posted to x2 and MyGradeBook. If Mr. Stephenson is told of an attendance recording error by the next class period, he will correct it; no correction will be made otherwise. Check MyGradeBook every evening, or enter your email address for automatic notifications.

IV. Miscellaneous

a. TO THE PARENT/GUARDIAN:

Please participate in your student's education. Encourage them to do the work assigned. Review their ***math notebook and works collection*** often. Ask them to explain to you the work they're doing; it will help them focus. Even if you don't understand the math or what they're saying, you do understand your student and what level of effort they are expending to learn the subject. Be a sounding board for them, and monitor their grades and attendance on MyGradeBook. Help them ***decide*** to learn math and ***follow through*** on that decision with the work necessary to make it happen. Be positive, supportive, and involved. Don't let your student give up. Your motivational involvement will have much more impact on their learning math than mine. Remember for their future that their successful completion of math courses often opens doors that would otherwise be closed to them. Questions?: call, or send e-mail to sks23@cornell.edu.

b. TO THE STUDENT:

Read, complete, sign, and date two copies of this document and ask your parent or guardian to do the same. Return one copy to me and have your parent or guardian keep the other.

We have read this Classroom Management Plan and the Student Handbook in their entirety,

Parent or Guardian's Printed Name and Phone

Student's Printed Name and Class Period

Parent or Guardian's Signature and Date

Student's Signature Age and Date