



To enjoy more "mathy" jocularity, go to the HUMOR link on my teacher Webpage.

pacesettersteammath.weebly.com

BABY BLUES

BY RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT



$$\sqrt{-1} \quad 2^3 \quad \Sigma \quad \pi$$

and it was delicious!

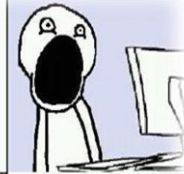
ZITS

By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman



$$3.14$$

$$\pi$$



$$\pi \approx 3.14$$

.....
Mind
Blown
.....

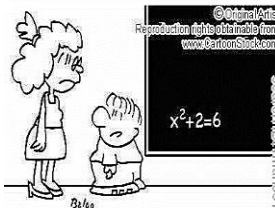


$$\boxed{3} = 9$$

$$\boxed{\boxed{3}} = 27$$

MATHEMATICAL JOKE

© 1997 by Randy Glasbergen. E-mail: randyg@norwich.net
http://www.norwich.net/~randyg/toon.html



"If 'x' is unknown, why should I rock the boat?"

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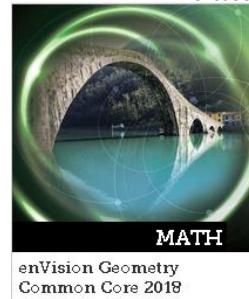
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GRADE

Welcome back to school everyone! While we've only just met, I think many of you know each other! I hope you will enjoy the challenge of this class! Advanced Geometry is a very exciting and a different sort of math course from your previous ones. You will use and apply the skills you mastered in Algebra 1 to broaden your understanding of 2-D and 3-D figures. As you did in Algebra 1 last year, in Advanced Geometry class we will cover about one lesson per day. Please do not let yourself fall behind!! This class is the same course as the Geometry class taught in 10th grade at the high school level, so if you are successful here, you will place smoothly into Algebra 2 next year. Just as with Algebra I, you should only move on to the next level of high school math if you meet or exceed the course expectations and demonstrate adequate mastery of Advanced Geometry concepts and skills. Below are the details of this class. Keep this syllabus in your binder and refer to it often ☺

Class Materials To be successful, you must come to class every day prepared to learn. Please bring the following supplies with you to class each day:

- Math Textbook and Student Companion
- 3-ring binder with paper (All notes, homework, classwork and graded assessments should be kept in this)
- Composition notebook (or spiral) for any extra notes you may need or want to take.
- Pencils and eraser (NO INK PENS)
- Highlighters (at least 3 colors)
- Pencil pouch
- Scientific calculator (TI-34 MultiView is recommended)
- Protractor & ruler
- Compass
- Graph paper/gridded paper (optional – could be very useful!)
- Index Cards (for Definitions, Postulates, and Theorems Flashcards)



<p>MATH FEE: \$3.00</p>
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Grading This is how I calculate your grade:

- **65% ASSESSMENTS** [Quizzes, Chapter Tests, ERQ's, First Semester Final and Final Exam]
- **35% Classwork & Homework**

HS Placement Recommendation: In order for me to feel comfortable recommending Algebra 2 for your freshman year math class, you must **maintain or exceed a C level assessments average**. (74% – 82%) in this HS required course. There will be FCPS online common assessments this year that will be used for this purpose in addition to MAP testing.

Details of Your Class

Homework and regular study time will be VERY IMPORTANT if your goal is to maintain high grades in this class! There is no such thing as an "easy A" in Advanced Geometry!

Think of math as a sport and you are being recruited for the greatest team in the world earning a paycheck that will set you apart from all others. By the way, it is statistically proven that the amount of income an adult makes is directly related to the level of math that person has taken. Yeah, it's true that money can't buy happiness, but it sure makes life a lot easier! Anyway, every quiz and test you take is like game day. You cannot expect to do well in the game if you do not come to practice – and practice hard! Homework is that practice. It is when we regularly practice that we all make mistakes and as an individual or team, we learn from those mistakes. If not, we tend to repeat them! By correcting our errors, we sharpen our skills and become confident in our abilities so it is possible to score high on game day.

Remember your grade in this class depends more on test and quiz performance – your level of mastery –

65% -- so . . . study, practice, study, practice, study, practice . . . !!!

How can I be best prepared for class each day?

To be prepared for class, you should read each new lesson the previous night. That will make understanding the next day's lesson easier and you will be prepared with questions to ask. You will be expected to know all vocabulary, postulates, and theorems. **You will have homework every day**, sometimes including test days. We will not have homework over the long holiday breaks. You will check your homework in class and I will give you 10 points for effort/completion. You may earn 5 points if your homework is **more than** ½ way done. When doing your homework, I expect and require you to **attempt every** problem. This means **all work, including diagrams, must be shown to qualify for full credit**. Label all homework with your **name and date**. Keep work NEAT and do not crowd your work! Mathematics is about communicating your thinking processes in a code-like manner. I cannot give credit to you if I am unable to decipher work in order to follow your thoughts.

*****There will be no exceptions about showing work to earn full credit on assignments*****



The key to success is to do all work, be honest with yourself when checking your work, and ask questions. It is very important that you learn your definitions, postulates, and theorems well enough to explain them in your own words -- and illustrate them. You will be **REQUIRED to make flashcards (DPT cards) for the first semester**. These cards help you commit concepts to memory, **and you will be allowed to use them on most quizzes and tests**. [Guidelines later]

- **Quizzes** are given approximately twice during each chapter, sometimes more and sometimes less depending on the length of the chapter or unit.
- **Tests** occur at the end of each chapter. Your raw assessment score average is an excellent gauge for determining whether you comprehend the material sufficiently to go on to Algebra 2 in high school. (Long chapters *may* be tested twice, halfway and again at the end)
- **Classwork/Homework** consists of all other work that is not a test or quiz. Class work can be assignments done in class or sometimes worksheets taken home, warm-ups, current DPT cards, and participation. Homework turned in late will not qualify for full credit. However, if you leave your homework in your locker, you may turn it in *immediately following class* for full credit. Sometimes circumstances occur that prevent you from having your homework in class – but you will be quizzed and tested over concepts involved, so you need to do it and at least get partial credit for late work. I will randomly collect assignments to do quality control. I will not announce this ahead of time! **This class does not offer extra credit** –however every chapter test includes a 10 point bonus opportunity!

To be clear... "I was confused" is not an acceptable reason to try NOT! I expect you to have some attempt to show me for each assigned problem!

All homework must be done to the best of your ability, and if absent, made up in a timely way – see make-up work policy below. I post each homework assignment on my teacher webpage every day. Also, there are section notes, PowerPoints & tutorials, and other study resources linked by section.

FYI: Your end of year GPA is calculated using the first three quarters for the recognition ceremony since that occurs before final grades are due. If your goal is to earn or maintain a 4.0 GPA, it is very important that you try your best each and every day from the beginning, onward!

What If I Am Absent? – Be Proactive!

- Use my **teacher webpage** to find out what you have missed.
- Make arrangements with **another geometry student** that can bring you any handouts during your absence, and one that will allow you to copy notes from him/her for the day(s) you missed.
- If this is not done, you must check with me to get any worksheets given on the day(s) you were absent.
- For excused absences, District and school homework policy allows one day for each day absent, plus one.

However, missed instruction due to absences can cost you dearly! Please try to be in class each and every day! If you are absent, remember this class will cover about a lesson a day. It is in your best interest to never allow yourself to fall too far behind since any announced quizzes and tests must be taken on the announced date. Current assignments are your first priority. If you ever need more time to catch up, just let me know. Any work (including quizzes or tests) that was due or scheduled on the day you were absent will be due the day you return to class. **Do your best to not fall behind on your practice – i.e., homework!**

Missed Tests and Quizzes: If you are absent on a quiz or test date, it is your responsibility to make arrangements for making up those assessments, otherwise you may have to miss another day of instruction to do so. Any quizzes or tests not made up by the end of a marking period will result in a zero. I strongly recommend that you do not miss another day of class to make up missed assessments. It is better to come before or stay after school. Sometimes another teacher may allow you to come during his/her class, but you must check with me first and make arrangements with your other teacher, in that event.

This class moves quickly and quizzes come up frequently. I will expect all graded work, especially quizzes and tests) to be made up ASAP since I cannot return graded work until everyone has turned in the assignment. Because the breadth of content for this class is so large, *there will be no test corrections or retakes. Therefore, please take time and use your book, notes, checked homework and graded quizzes to prepare for all quizzes and chapter tests – and come to after school help sessions if you need more assistance.*



What if my family takes me away? I will come looking for you ☺ Well . . . maybe not, but I will miss you. If you must be away from school, please let me know ASAP so I can get together for you any work that you may need while gone. Then when you return to the excitement of our class, it will *almost* be as if you never left.

What If I Need Help?

I will be available every Thursday from 4:00 – 5:00 for supervised help!

A smart person once said: “Mathematics is not a careful march through a well-cleared highway, but a journey into a strange wilderness, where the explorers often get lost”.

I agree with this person 100%!!! You will feel like quite the explorer this year, I promise! If you ever feel hopelessly lost and confused, do not delay, come see me! I do not bite!! Of course you will need help from time to time. **Needing help does NOT mean you are stupid** – or that you’ve lost your “touch” in math. However, if you are unable to work through your confusion by yourself, failing to ask for and receive help might certainly make you feel defeated and that will only compound your problems! Often, we have not because we ask not! **All good math students ask questions** and come for occasional help! I will be available for help after school on Thursdays – just let me know! Come for help or just come, hang with friends, work on assignments or get your questions answered. It is *very important* that you **understand each lesson**. If you leave my class slightly confused about a lesson, please stop by for help. Do not put it off! Unless I have a meeting, I am in my room daily after school until at least 5:00 and will be happy to answer quick questions. If you need more time, please let me know so I can plan for more time.

Also, don’t forget the many online resources that are linked on my webpage and those provided by the EnVision textbook. Those resources are there for YOU!

❖ **Ms. Nelson’s final thoughts~**

I hope you will commit to making your last trip around the sun as a middle school student the best one ever! If you are reading this, you are a Pacesetter now! So to set your pace, remember to start the year with an open mind and put all math fears aside. Working hard to achieve success is a good feeling . . . and I promise you, you WILL get a good and strenuous mental work-out in this class! You’ll be so proud of all you’ve learned by the end of this year! ☺

A few mantras to chant if you ever get frustrated.

- When the going gets tough, the tough get going. *Right?*
- Hard work beats talent when talent doesn’t work hard! *Right?*
- Quitters never win and winners never quit. *Right?*
- To whom much is given, much is expected. *Right?*
- **Never let what you can’t do interfere with what you can do!**

Always remember that you are an individual with unique abilities. Your math skills are *not inherited* from your mom, dad, brother, sister, cat, dog, guinea pig, or fish – oh you get the picture . . . Get ready, get set, let’s get to work, ...GO!

I am looking forward to a successful and enjoyable year with you.

Always believe in yourself!



I do! ☺

Ms. Nelson

(Your cheerleader!)

How to contact me:

Email: vickie.nelson@fayette.kyschools.us

Phone: (859)381.3094 | Extension: 40275

TOPICS

- Foundations of Geometry
- Parallel & Perpendicular Lines
- Transformations
- Triangle Congruence
- Relationships in Triangles
- Quadrilaterals & Other Polygons
- Similarity
- Right Triangles & Trigonometry
- Coordinate Geometry
- Circles
- 2-D & 3-D Models
- Probability* if time permits



PS – Please get 2 book covers for your textbooks!
8th Grade Pacesetter Team | 2018 – 2019
Teacher Webpage: pacesettersteammath.weebly.com

Ms. Nelson

Syllabus Signature Page

8th Grade Advanced Geometry with Ms. Nelson

CLASS PERIOD _____

Hello Parents (*and students*),

Please sign below to show that you have read the course expectations and requirements. Have your child return the signed syllabus page to me with the \$3.00 math supply fee.

Thank you so much!

Please print name on top line and sign on second line.

STUDENT Name: printed please _____

Student *Signature*: _____

PARENT Name: printed please _____

Parent *Signature*: _____

If you have any questions, needs, or concerns, please write them below or you can email me anytime at:

vickie.nelson@fayette.kyschools.us