

## Welcome to Mrs. Barnard's MATH Class!!

In the past there have been many reports and studies recommending that the traditional math courses be modified to a curriculum that makes more sense in a time where computers are in virtually every business and calculators are found on most electronic devices. You are about to begin a course that will mark a major step towards advancing in the technological direction.

What can you expect from this class? This course is built around problems, and exercises where you will spend most of your time discussing these real-world problems in groups. While doing this, you will be developing mathematical rules from patterns using your algebraic and geometric thought processes. This course will:

- Deal with the major concepts needed for your future math courses such as variable operations, symbol sense, functions, rational & irrational expressions, solving equations, inequalities, absolute value, systems of equations, and analysis of statistics.
- Increase your knowledge with all real numbers and your understanding of algebraic structures that underlie operations.
- Emphasize the interrelationship of data patterns, equations, and graphs (linear and others.)
- Prepare you for your future high school/college math and science courses.
- Emphasize understanding mathematics for every student.

The expectation is that you will learn to increase your mathematical thinking skills and be able to clearly communicate what you know. You will develop a 'toolkit' of techniques and strategies that will enable you to tackle more complex problems.

You will learn to do what computers and calculators cannot do which include:

- Writing algebraic equations from words and diagrams.
- Interpret the graphs of linear and nonlinear functions.
- Writing ratios/proportions and using them to solve problems.
- Relating solutions of equations to their graphs.

No one can successfully play a sport by just watching others play nor can they understand the game without talking about it. Likewise, the only way you can become good at mathematics is by doing problems and talking about them with your classmates and at home. If you do both, you will learn more mathematics and you will probably find that it is not only useful, but it is fun!

Tutoring can aid in your success. If you are interested in tutoring, please let me know. More information regarding the Common Core standards and the Math curriculum will be available at our Back to School Night and I look forward to meeting parents/guardians that evening.

Your success is important to me and I will do the best I can to support you throughout the year!

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Website: [www.bveaglesbarnard.weebly.com](http://www.bveaglesbarnard.weebly.com)

## Supplies:

You will be required to have the following materials DAILY:

- A sturdy 3 ring binder (at least 1") with two math sections labeled CURRENT WORK & TESTS. (You can use this binder for your other classes.)
- Planner
- Lined, hole-punched binder paper.
- PENCILS. (At least two per day.)
- Your Toolkit Workbook (You will be assigned this during the 1<sup>st</sup> few weeks of school.)
- A Textbook will be sent home and students will have access to a Textbook & iPad in class.

You will be EXPECTED to keep a well-organized binder. Having your papers in order will enable you to see the sequence of skills you are mastering. At the front will be an **assignment** sheet that will be a record of each Chapter's assignments. **Parents should look for this page to monitor your math scores as well as check daily on Aeries.** All exams are cumulative - August through June - so your toolkits will be helpful study aids and should be kept in your binder ALL year. There are also district cumulative finals throughout the year as well as the end-of-year State testing. I will update grades periodically throughout the year.

Work that cannot be read or answers without appropriate explanations WILL NOT receive full credit. *A single correct answer is not the only goal, but your thoughts behind your solutions are also very important.* You can expect homework at least 4 nights a week depending on how you use your class time. If you are spending more than 30 minutes on homework a night, please stop and let me know in class the next day. **Homework help is available online at [cpm.org](http://cpm.org).** EVERY minute of class time is valuable so be prepared to work the full period daily. Pacing will be tight to meet the standards required by the State.

## Class Rules:

1. Respect the rights of others.
2. Limit talking to Team Time and stay on task.
3. When the bell rings, have your supplies out and ready for class.
4. Use paper for writing, not desktops.
5. Have Fun!!

Please return this letter acknowledging that you both have read the "Welcome to Mrs. Barnard's Math Class Letter" and understand what is expected of your student during this year. If you would like a copy of this letter, you can either print one from my website or request one below.

Student \_\_\_\_\_ Parent \_\_\_\_\_

I would like a copy of this letter: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes