

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We're back to school and I hope your child(ren) get off to a great start! Research has shown that, of all the factors that contribute to a student's success, YOU are the most important factor! By encouraging a good attitude towards learning and by being involved in what your child is doing at school, you are truly helping them be successful. How can you get involved? Your child has a **syllabus** with information about math class and grading procedures - please take a few minutes to look it over so you are familiar with this class's expectations and procedures for grades. You can also find a copy of the syllabus on my website (mrsnichellenoble.weebly.com). You can also find the course calendar, notes, answer keys, video tutorials, and extra practice at this website. Your child will be informed periodically of his/her current average grade but I'm expecting you to check **Power School** regularly so that you are always informed as well. I input grades quickly and regularly so that there are no surprises. I strongly encourage you to **contact me** if you have any questions or concerns throughout the school year. The easiest way for me to get your contact and respond is through email. My email is noblem@lancastersd.k12.wi.us, but if phone is easier for you, my extension is 373.

We have an excellent math curriculum at Lancaster – one that will provide your child with the necessary mathematic skills required for his/her future. Just taking a math class; however, does not ensure success. You and I can support your child and help them succeed by:

- 1) Requiring them to be in class – students who have frequent absences also tend to have lower grades. Since mathematics is a discipline that builds on previous concepts, if students miss class they have to go back and pick up what they missed before they can move on. If your child does need to miss school for illness, appointments which can't be scheduled outside school time, or other emergencies, I am happy to spend extra time with your student to help them catch up, if necessary their study hall, before/after school, or during WIN. Have them see me and we'll work out a time.
- 2) Encouraging them to ask questions – students should ask for help as soon as they need it. Waiting too long oftentimes causes problems to “snowball”. Communication is key and the earlier the better. If they need further clarification on a concept, chances are someone else does too. Usually a student will not ask questions in fear of peer judgement. If we need to, we can work out a signal so I know your child needs help without the need of them speaking up in front of the entire class.
- 3) Expecting homework completion to be their **best effort** – students who do all homework assignments tend to have higher grades and a more solid understanding than students who

do not make homework a priority. My goal is, not just to teach the math your son/daughter needs, but to help them establish good study habits, note-taking skills, and a sense of self-discipline, accountability, work ethic, critical thinking skills, problem solving skills, responsibility, and ability to use resources.

- 4) Checking my website and PowerSchool. You will be informed of homework assignments, test/quiz dates, and you will find notes regarding the current sections we are studying. **If your child is absent, please require them to communicate with me before returning to class.**

This class consists of 10% grades and 90% grades. The 10% grades include homework and dailies. The homework is assigned for each section and includes all odd problems so they can check their work as they go to make sure they understand. If they do not understand I expect them to ask a question the following day. Dailies are given in class after a few sections have been covered as a formal check of their knowledge, but spin to see how they take it (partners, tables, notes, Chromebook, etc.). The 90% includes quizzes, tests, and projects. A quiz is a summative assessment over part of a chapter or a small chapter. These can be retaken twice a semester for up to a 100%. Tests cannot be retaken and cover the entire chapters material. Projects do not exist for every chapter.

Since we have a common goal, the education of your child, I want to keep the lines of communication open so we can accomplish our goal. To help me do my part, I'm asking you to **please email me** so I have your current email address (and/or phone number if you prefer). This will give you the opportunity to give me your contact information and it will let me know that you have seen the course syllabus. **Please include the student's name, class period, and the name of their math course in the subject line** (that way, I can find your email should it go to my "junk mail" folder by accident). **I would also love to hear anything you would like to tell me about your child(ren), especially information not usually gathered in the classroom.**

I will use your email address as my first choice for contacting you unless you specify otherwise. (If you are unable to email, please send a note to school with your contact information.) Feel free to add any other information that you feel would be beneficial for me to know.

I'm looking forward to working with you and your child. I think it'll be a great year! The first quizzes of the year will happen soon! Please don't hesitate to contact me for any reason.

Thank you,

Mrs. Michelle Noble (mathematics teacher)

723-2173 (extension 373)

noblem@lancastersd.k12.wi.us