

August 29, 2016

Dear Students, Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to Math IA! I am glad to have the opportunity to work with you this year. Math IA is the first part of a year-long course that fulfills the Math 1 requirement for graduation. It blends many skills including critical thinking, basic arithmetic, problem solving, reading, vocabulary and interpreting. Some of the topics covered in this course are: solving equations and inequalities, linear equations, quadratic equations and exponential functions, systems of equations, modeling, graphing, radicals, statistics and geometry. My goals are to (1) prepare students for their next math course, (2) prepare them for the End-of-Course exam and (3) help them enjoy and appreciate mathematics.

Because many of the skills we learn can also be done with technology, the ability to use the graphing calculator is a requirement for success in Math I. These calculators will also be used in higher-level math and science courses. Having her/his own TI-84 or TI-83-Plus calculator for use and practice at home is ideal.

Probably the two most important things for the student to remember are:

- 1) Students: **Do** your homework every night. → Parents: expect your child to have homework every night.
- 2) Students: **Don't** wait; get help when you need it. → Parents: Please encourage your child to ask for help.

I plan to be available after school often for help sessions. I'll let the students know which days I have meetings that conflict. Please check with me prior to coming in .

Students' grades for each quarter will be calculated as follows:

Tests/Projects	45%
Quizzes	30%
Classwork	15%
Homework	10%

Need More Assistance?

A, B, C lunches (except Th.)
After school (2:30 -3:30) Th (M)
Rm 8407:T, W, Ma.Hn. Soc.(2:30-3:30)
online: www.khanacademy.org

Retest Policy: Any student may retest any unit test *provided* a) the student has come in for remediation, and b) retests are done within 2 weeks of receiving their original grade. The higher grade will be recorded.

Most classwork and homework is completed in our course unit packets. It is each student's responsibility to bring their packet with them to class everyday just as they would a textbook. Class information and packets will be posted at adwiggins.weebly.com (adwiggins at the MCHS directory, <http://middlecreekhs.wcpss.net>).

Homework assignments will be sent through **remind.com**. Students will receive information on how to sign up for the 'remind' messages. Parents may sign up as well. Students have two days to complete homework after an absence. Missing homework should be completed before the day of the unit test. Points are lost for late work.

Our exam is a teacher made test that counts 20% of the student's final semester grade. The Math I EOC (end-of-course) will be given at the completion of Math IB in the spring.

I welcome any questions or input to help your child. You may leave a message for me at the school (phone: 773-3838), or at my email address – adwiggins@wcpss.net. I appreciate that you are entrusting the education and care of your child to me. By working together, I expect this to be a productive and enjoyable class for all of us!

Ava S. Dwiggins

An Assignment for Parents, a signature panel, and a list of supplies are on the back of this letter.

Math I – **SUPPLIES**

Mrs. Dwiggins

Students should have the following materials:

TI-83 Plus or TI-84 graphing calculator (used is fine!)

Notebook paper

Pencils

One 1 1/2" or 2" three-ring binder

4 dividers

Graph paper (quad- four squares to the inch, usually has blue lines)

Small straight edge (6"), optional

2-3 colored pencils, used later in the year

***** Parent/Guardian Assignment *****

In a thousand words or less, tell me about your child. This is a chance to help me get to know your daughter or son and for you to share what you would like for me know about her or him. I will read every one, and I will not share them with anyone. You may send this assignment by your child to me on separate paper, or email it to me at adwiggins@wcpss.net. The assignment will be due in two weeks (or as soon as you can do it). I am looking forward to reading them. Thank you for your help!

----- **Sign, detach and return this section to Mrs. Dwiggins by September 6, 2016** -----

I have read and understood the information in Mrs. Dwiggins' Math IA letter.

Student name: (print) _____ (sign) _____
Class period 1st 2nd (Circle one)

Parent/Guardian (print) _____ (sign) _____

Email _____