

January 25, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians of AFM Students,

Welcome to another semester and to AFM! AFM is designed to help students model and apply functions to real – life situations. It is accepted as the 4th math for admission to many colleges and performance in this course determines placement in future math courses. A unit outline can be found on the Classroom Policy your child received today in class.

Calculator Requirement: Students are required to have a GRAPHING calculator for this course. The TI-83+ or TI-84+ is STRONGLY recommended. (The TI-Nspire is acceptable as long as your child uses the TI-84+ faceplate for all quizzes and tests. Students are not allowed to use the TI-89 calculator. Casio calculators are discouraged.) They must bring their calculator to class every day.

****Wakefield High School provides a loan program for graphing calculators.** Teachers do not have graphing calculators available in their room for students to use during class or SMART lunch. **Students must either complete a loan agreement (parent signature must be witnessed by a school official or form must be notarized) to check out a school calculator for the semester or purchase their own calculator. Calculators will be loaned out on a first come, first served basis.**

Please note: Not having a graphing calculator is not an excuse. Students who do not have a graphing calculator will be at a severe disadvantage in this course and will be unable to complete much of the coursework, including tests and quizzes. If you have questions concerning this requirement, please contact me.

Textbook: There a textbook for this course, but will remain in the classroom most of the time. As noted in the classroom policy, students will “build” their textbook through handouts and notes. Classroom attendance and participation is extremely important for this to be effective. Students can check out the textbook to use at home as a resource for the course.

Assignments: It is important that your child take good notes, study those notes on a daily basis and complete all class and homework assignments. Students cannot learn and become proficient in math without practice. Please emphasize to your child the importance of doing homework every night. You can help your child by making sure that homework is completed and that he/she is aware of and prepared for all tests.

PRIDE Time/SMART Lunch Tutorials: If your child has a grade below 75, they will be required to attend Pride Time. If your child needs help, they are welcome to come to PRIDE Time when they are not assigned and SMART Lunch on Fridays. Math Honor Society tutors work with students during PRIDE Time in teacher classrooms. Students will be notified when tutors are available.

Grade postings: It is my expectation that you will regularly check Powerschools to stay updated on your child’s progress. Progress reports will only be sent home once or twice per quarter. I will update Powerschools at least once a week. Checking online or having Powerschools send you grade updates by email is a much more effective way of staying updated on your child’s progress and course needs.

Contact Information: Please feel free to contact me at any time. The easiest way to reach me is by email at aunklesbay@wcpss.net. You may also call and leave a message for me at 919-562-3600. I will return all calls within 24-48 hours, hopefully sooner.

Please review the Classroom Policy handed out in class today for more course information and complete the parent information section on the “Classroom Policy Acknowledgement and Agreement Form” sheet. Your child should return that sheet to me tomorrow or by Friday, February 9th at the latest. It is important that you include an accurate email address (if possible) as that will serve as my primary form of communication with you this semester.

I look forward to a successful semester!

Sincerely,

Amanda Unklesbay
Math Teacher
Wakefield High School