Fayetteville High School 2018

Pre-AP Geometry

Pre-AP Mathematics – recipes for success

* Two or more nights a week working at home on math, on the day you do not have math!
* Be in and participate in class ***every*** time. Attendance in math is necessary for success!
* Resources: organized notebook with geometric truth, in-class work, homework, any resources on my website, ruler, compass, normal school supplies. Khanacademy.org can be helpful. Geogebra is a great free program that is good for geometry. It is not a good habit to “Google” everything. Learn to use other resources, including the textbook.
* At least once a week a student should teach someone at home something that they are learning. Verbalization is important.
* A study-buddy can also be quite helpful… someone to call and discuss math with when a student gets “stuck”. It’s best to be someone of similar ability level.
* Key question in Geometry is not “What do I do?” It is “What do I know?”
* Students come into the class with prior success with “What do I do?” The key is how to transition to “What do I know?”
* Try every problem. Do not quit in the middle of homework no matter what.
* Be able to “read” sketches and refer back to appropriate conjectures (theorems) and definitions that might be helpful in answering “What do I know?”
* Ask questions in class when we going over homework. Figure out what was not understood.
* MOST IMPORTANT: Before starting tonight’s homework, go back to previous homework. Do I truly understand the problems that I did not get? Spend 10 minutes or more wrestling with the previous night’s work.
* When tests and quizzes come around… STUDY FOR THEM! Many students will say that they do not know how to study for math. Geometry is a word – based course. There is much to study!
* Always re-read and work with all recent conjectures or theorems. Cover up the sketch and draw one from words. Cover up the words and “read” the sketch. Same with recent new terms in the glossary.
* Many students will say that their success in the class comes from really understanding the conjectures and definitions. Keep them up to date and accurate with good sketches.
* Re-work quizzes. Look for similar problems and try them.
* If there is a topic list, read it over. Go through the bullet points and figure out which kind of problems match each statement. Make sure you can do them.
* On the test… if a student gets “stuck”, move on to the next problem for now.
* Sleep is important! Too many hours studying (or watching netflix) is detrimental.
* Read over the test quickly before starting to work. Look at what is in front of you and judge your time. Pick a point to stop and check the time. Look for problems that need to be dealt with last because of lack of understanding.
* On True/False, I always find it helpful to correct false statements or draw sketches, even if not required. This can shed light on discrepancies in the problem.