

Dear parents and students,

Welcome to Flipped PreAP PreCalculus! I wanted to take this time to inform you and your student of classroom expectations and procedures. Attached you will find a syllabus. When you have finished reading and discussing with your student, please sign and detach the second page. I look forward to an awesome year!

Our PreAP PreCalculus class will use the “Flipped Classroom” model exclusively for learning. The premise behind this model is that students watch instructional videos at home and use in-class time to work on problem solving activities, a “flip” from the traditional lecture-homework format. I want to elaborate on this setup and how it will benefit your child in the long run.

Students are used to getting 10-20 math problems nightly, several of which are “challenge” problems. Regular homework can take anywhere from a few minutes to a few hours, with no help from an expert on the topic. With flipped instruction, students can expect to watch a 5-15 minute video and take notes 3-5 times a week, including weekends. They are welcome to pause and rewind, but overall the note-taking should take less than a half hour every night. Students are encouraged to write down questions to ask in class the next day, or tweet or email me for answers.

During class, students will ask questions, work on practice problems, and synthesize the information presented in the video. We will have many cooperative learning experiences in class. In essence, class time becomes more of a tutoring time, where students can work at their own pace, with the help of the teacher and classmates, to complete work. I will still offer before and after school tutoring, but your child will have lots of opportunities in class to clarify topics.

What can you do to help your student? Make sure your child watches a video every night when it is assigned. Unit calendars and agendas will be given out and posted on my website, so your student will know what is expected in the upcoming week. You are welcome to also watch the video and see what we’re currently learning! Encourage your student to write down any questions they may have while watching. Make sure your student keeps an open mind to the idea of a flipped classroom – it is the norm in most upper-level math and science classrooms. Progress reports will be sent every few weeks and grades will be updated on Focus weekly. I encourage you to stay active in your child’s learning.

This class is intended to prepare students for AP Calculus and college math courses. It is very important that your student actively attends class and participates in class activities. If you feel your student needs more support, do not hesitate to contact me to set up additional learning opportunities. I hope this letter describes what’s going on in your student’s math class this year. If you have any questions, about flipped instruction or your child’s progress, feel free to email or call me.

Sincerely,

Sara Korotkow
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All videos will be posted at: <http://www.mskmath.com> and on my youtube channel <https://www.youtube.com/user/mskmathrhs>. I will also send out nightly text messages through Remind (text @pc1 to 81010 to receive updates)

After reading and discussing the class procedures and classroom expectations for Ms. Korotkow’s flipped PreAP Precalculus class, please fill out the google form at <https://goo.gl/K8eY4E> (capitals matter!)