

Dear Students and Families,

As classes resume in an online-only format, I wanted to provide an update and clarification on how classes will be conducted after spring break through the end of the school year. As we are all dealing with collective and individual challenges during this time, please know there will need to be room for making adjustments. I will make it a top priority to communicate any adjustments or changes to the schedule clearly and in a timely manner so students can participate/have access to check ins, lesson tutorials, and help from me. All district families have received information about the schedule students and staff have been asked to follow. Please check the school district homepage to see the entire schedule.

**What does the schedule look like for Precalculus?**

Monday	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri
Independent work time for both teacher and students	1 <sup>st</sup> Per 9:30-10:15 Students can access the new lesson(s) on Google Classroom	Office Hours 1:30-3:00 By appointment only	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Per 9:30-10:15</b> <b>Virtual Class Check-In</b> Online discussion board or group chat via Google Classroom	9:30-12:00 At this time, Friday morning is scheduled for my 5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup> period Geometry classes check in.
Assignment(s) from previous week are due by the end of the day.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Per 10:30 -11:15 Students can access the new lesson(s) on Google Classroom		<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Per 10:30-11:15</b> <b>Virtual Class Check-In</b> Online discussion board or group chat via Google Classroom	
Staff Mtg 2:00-3:00	Students can email, post a private comment on classroom, or send a text via Remind with any questions throughout the school day. I will respond as promptly as possible. <b>Please note: 12:45-1:30 Thursday is scheduled for my 4<sup>th</sup> period Geometry class. (as well as Friday mornings – see above). I'm unable to respond to questions during this time.</b>			

**How is this different from how we were conducting class before spring break?**

The short answer is we now have a set schedule to follow that will help us all better organize our time. For Precalculus, I hope the above schedule is fairly self-explanatory. Most importantly, students will have an opportunity to meet with me as a class on **Thursdays**. We will use the time to go over any general questions from assigned work, additional practice and/or examples to check for understanding. Students are expected to participate in the virtual class check-in. Office hours are held on Wednesday afternoons as shown in the schedule above.

**What will assignments and materials look like?**

As before, assignments and materials are accessible via Google Classroom. It's my goal to upload the lesson(s) for the week by Tuesday morning so students can view the examples, begin working on the assigned practice, and prepare any questions they might want to ask. Content will be delivered through a combination of lesson notes and videos. Students should respond to the content through individual notetaking, online practice problems, Google Classroom discussion posts, formative assessments, and work from the text. Students will be asked to upload photos of handwritten work to the assignment post in Google Classroom. If students have trouble getting photos to upload, please let me know via email or Remind. I'm trying to stay pretty consistent with how we've been doing things over the last few weeks. In the event that I experiment with something new, I will do my best to keep it simple!

**How will students be graded?**

That's good question. As I'm writing this, teachers still haven't received any information on how this is going to work. In the meantime, I will be tracking all student progress and entering scores into Home Access (yes, I have some catching up to do as well). For the time being, these scores will have no impact on the grade that includes work assigned up to March 12<sup>th</sup>. It will allow for students check their own progress and see what still needs to be completed. I will be asking students to turn in their independent practice from the week before each Monday by the end of the school day. That said, it's vitally important in this situation for each student to find the motivation within themselves to study and participate in learning the concepts and skills presented to them. I can and will clarify further once teachers have been given a definitive answer.

**How to contact Ms. Baumgartner:**

- 1) Via email: [wbaumgartner@tamdistrict.org](mailto:wbaumgartner@tamdistrict.org)
- 2) Via comments on google classroom
- 3) Through the remind app

I'm available throughout the school day as defined by the TUHSD Distance Learning Plan to correspond with students and their families. All are welcome to send their questions or concerns via email outside of those hours but please be flexible in my response time as I'm trying to balance work and home life along with everyone else. There will be times when I'm working with students or other classes that also impacts when I'm able to respond.

Thanks to all who have been trying to keep up with everything while navigating some pretty choppy waters. I'm so impressed by the resiliency and efforts I've witnessed over the last month – the whole year, really. When word came down we weren't going to go back to the actual classroom, I felt pretty darn sad we weren't going to meet live and in-person again. I miss it a lot. I've had such a good time getting to know everyone, joking around, and doing lots of trigonometry! So much trig!!

Never hesitate to contact me if you have questions. I'm here to support and help you move forward as much as possible. As I've said before, we're all in this together and learning from a distance isn't easy for a lot of people. It's totally new for me too. Reach out to me if you need my help. Let's do our best to stay positive, be open to change, and be kind to each other. We'll make it through, I have no doubt about it.

Take care everyone and see you in some way or another on or before Thursday!

Ms. Baumgartner