

## Meredith Brocklebank Algebra II and Geometry

For even more information please view my webpage at  
<http://lipscombacademy.weebly.com/mrs-brocklebank.html>

Welcome to a new semester at Lipscomb Academy. I am very excited about guiding your child through this math course and I can not wait to see what we will learn from each other. I have and will continue to work extremely hard to make this a wonderful experience for everyone involved. I pray that God will continue to transform all of us into the image of Christ throughout the year.

### Communication:

I will be regularly updating RenWeb with both homework assignments and grades. If your child ever has questions about any notes they missed or what their homework is, RenWeb is the first place to check! You may also reach me through email or by phone. I am also available for conferences (either by phone or in person) during my planning period and before or after school.

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### Goals:

- ✓ Be prepared for future math courses!
- ✓ Relieve math anxiety and math apathy!
- ✓ Quantifiable ACT/SAT improvement (= more scholarship money ☺ )
- ✓ Learn math instead of simply memorizing algorithms
- ✓ Cover the content outlined in the NCTM standards
- ✓ Continue to be transformed into the image of Christ!!

### What can you do to help your child be successful?

- ✓ Reinforce the importance of doing their homework every night, showing all of their work AND checking answers in the back of the book! (They will have homework most nights and it will be checked consistently through completion checks, homework quizzes, and “Homework Confidence Checks” aka POP quizzes. Homework is very important in math and can make a huge difference in a student’s level of success!)
- ✓ Help your student avoid missing math class since math topics build.
- ✓ Emphasize the importance of taking thorough notes and keeping their work organized.
- ✓ Encourage them to have a “bedside 5” (5 minutes to study right before bed) every night and make sure they are getting a full night’s sleep.
- ✓ Advise them on how to take responsibility for their education! (by doing homework, studying, staying organized and most importantly **asking questions!** I am willing to help them before/after school if they will only ask!)
- ✓ Encourage and support them through this difficult course and for many of them a tough year.

### Homework:

It is important that your student get all of their homework questions answered, so encourage them to ask those questions in class or see me before or after school. Furthermore, if they did not understand the homework when it is first assigned after they understand it they should go back and re-do the problems they were not successful on the night before. This will make a big difference in their level of success!

- ✓ Homework Completion Checks: Almost everyday I grade their homework based on their effort. I look to see they have attempted every problem and they have shown the appropriate amount of work. These grades are usually 5 point grades.
- ✓ Homework Quizzes: I also give unannounced homework quizzes. They are allowed to use their homework on these quizzes however they are not allowed to use a textbook or a calculator since they are to be copying down the homework they have already completed. Homework quizzes check to make sure students' are keeping their work organized, checking their answers in the back of the book, and asking questions on their homework when necessary. Homework Quizzes include up to 4 questions (one on a "Bell Work" assignment) and are 20 point grades.
- ✓ Homework Confidence Checks: Similar to homework quizzes, Homework Confidence Checks are another way for me to check student homework efforts. These quizzes will often include exact homework questions from previous nights and are graded for accuracy.
- ✓ Any assignments turned in late will only receive 60% of the earned grade. Late homework and incomplete work from absences will only be accepted until your student tests on that subject!

### Clarification on the Cheating Policy:

Any assignment that has the potential of being graded is expected to be completed independently. This includes tests, quizzes, homework assignments, classwork assignments, bell work, pop quizzes, test corrections etc. I encourage students to collaborate and learn from one another by asking each other questions and explaining the problems to one another. Collaboration of that kind is an excellent learning experience for everyone involved. However, copying of any kind on any assignment will not be tolerated! It is cheating to copy someone else's work. It is also cheating to give a classmate your work to copy. In cases where a student is caught cheating I will follow the policy as outlined in the school handbook and the student will be disciplined accordingly (Cheating is considered a level 2 or 3 offense).

### Grading System - Algebra 2, Honors Algebra II, Geometry:

Test and Quizzes .....65%  
Homework and Homework Quizzes.....35%

Within each category each assignment will be worth a different amount of points which will vary depending on the difficulty of the assignment and the amount of work required. Usually tests will be worth 100 points, quizzes will be worth 50, homework checks and quizzes will be worth 5-20 points. There may also an opportunity for bonus points via test corrections, hall passes, and review games given at my discretion.

**I care deeply for your student and I am so excited to be working with them this year. I look forward to partnering with you to help your child successfully master Algebra 2 and Geometry! Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.**