**SYLLABUS – Ninth Grade Geometry**

ESSENTIAL CONTENT & SKILLS (From Common Core Standards):

**Mathematically proficient students will**



1. **make sense of problems and persevere in solving them**
2. **reason abstractly and quantitatively**
3. **construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others**
4. **model with mathematics**
5. **use appropriate tools strategically**
6. **attend to precision**
7. **look for and make use of structure**
8. **look for and express regularity and repeated reasoning**

**In geometry, these practice standards will be emphasized through**

* Using basic language, tools of geometry, plane geometry and coordinate geometry
* Using logical reasoning and proof
* Using angle relationships
* Using polygons
* Using congruent and similar triangles
* Exploring geometric concepts with constructions using traditional tools and technology
* Using right triangle trigonometry
* Using transformational geometry
* Using circle properties
* Using 3-Dimensional figures

Some frequently asked questions about ACADEMICS

**What is the grading scale?**

A = 100 – 90 B+ = 87 – 89 B = 80-86

C+ = 77 – 79 C = 70 – 76 D = 63 – 69 D- = 60 – 62

**What counts toward my grade?**

Tests, graded assignments, checkpoints, and quizzes count toward your grade. By the way, tests are cumulative for the semester. For example, even though we complete a unit in November, you may be tested on something you learned in September or October.

Grades are based on total points earned divided by total points possible.

Summative assessments (unit tests) = approximately 75%

Formative assessments (checkpoints, quizzes, graded assignments) = approximately 15%

Study skills/effort grades/participation (hw quiz, syllabus quiz) = not more than 10%

**Homework Policy:**

Daily practice is not assigned a quantitative score. HW may be checked for completion (an authentic attempt of each question). Periodically throughout each unit, after students have had a chance to attempt the hw, students will complete a hw quiz to assess whether or not they are completing and/or correcting their homework. The HW quiz grades are given as **extra credit** at the end of each full unit. These quizzes also provide parents, teachers and students with valuable feedback regarding the connection between independent practice and assessment scores. Homework assignments can be collected and graded on completion and accuracy at the teacher’s discretion

**When is work due?** Daily practice is due at the beginning of the hour the day after it is assigned unless otherwise noted. Graded assignments are due at the beginning of the hour on the day they are due.

**Do you accept late work for partial-credit?**

For graded assignments, the assignment may be turned in the following day for half credit.

**How much does the semester exam weigh into my grade?**

The semester exam counts 20% toward the semester grade. No one is exempt from the exam. Each quarter counts 40% toward the semester grade.

Here is an **example** of how the semester grade will be calculated:

Quarter 1 90% x 0.40 = 36

Quarter 2 70% x 0.40 = 28

Exam 65% x 0.20 = 13

Overall semester grade C+= 77 %

**Do you offer extra credit?**

Extra credit will be available throughout the semester for no more than 5% of the overall grade. HW quizzes may also be given each full unit for extra credit.

 **Can I retake tests?**

*There will be no test retakes in Geometry.*

**Can I use any testing aids on my test?**

No unit assessment aids (index cards, formula sheet, or notes) will be allowed, any specific formulas that will be needed will be provided in the test.

**What is a checkpoint?** A checkpoint is a formative assessment that is used to measure how proficient you are on a current topic of study. Sometimes checkpoints will be ‘show your work’, sometimes explain your answer, sometimes matching, sometimes drawing or demonstrating. Sometimes, your homework assignment will be collected and graded as a checkpoint. Students who are absent do not make up checkpoints.

0 = no attempt

**Textbook Information**

The publisher for the **Geometry** textbook provides a website, [www.geometryonline.com](http://www.algebra1.com), where there is a copy of the textbook online that can be accessed by using the access code A1F44AFDAB. The publisher’s website has many study resources including self-check quizzes.

**CLASSROOM PROTOCOLS - Ms. Joseph, Fall 2016**

Website: <http://ejoseph10.weebly.com> Phone: 586-723-3441

 \*weekly/monthly agendas can be found here email: ejoseph@cvs.k12.mi.us

**There are 4 steps to success in math class**.

1. **Please come to class prepared with these items:**
* *3-ring binder with lined paper*

*All of our work will be hole-punched and stored in the binder.*

* *Pencil –for writing notes and completing assignments.*
* *Scientific or graphing calculator - neither kind has an advantage. No cell phone calc’s.*
* *Textbook – when appropriate. See website or weekly schedule in classroom.*
1. **Use your class time appropriately.**
2. *Be in your seat when the bell rings.*
3. *Read the board when you walk into class and quickly do what it says.*

*c. Follow directions.*

*d. Be attentive and take good, descriptive notes during the lesson.* ***When you take notes:*** *It is not enough just to copy the examples discussed in class. You must be able to perform the skills taught in class on your own. Writing a few sentences that describe the process in your own words can go a long way toward helping you use your notes for your own benefit later. Simply copying what your teacher writes on the board is not an effective way to learn. You must be mentally engaged in the lesson.*

*e. Ask questions right away about what you don’t understand.*

*f. Use non-instructional time productively to complete assignments, ask questions, or read quietly.*

1. **Independent Practice is the #1 contributor to student success!**
* *Use your class notes to complete the assignment the same day you learn a new skill.*
* Ask questions about what you don’t understand.
* Do problems over again that you didn’t get right the first time.
1. **Prepare for tests**. *Make sure you do a few EXTRA problems from each topic (see the objective sheet for each unit) to review and practice a few days before the test. For topics not in the textbook, review your class notes, redo practice problems or make up similar problems and your teacher will check over your work. Use the self-check quizzes on the website, algebra1.com*

**A word about homework (hw):**

Independent, daily practice is a significant component of student success. Even more important than attempting hw, is understanding hw. So, not only do we expect you to try every problem, we expect you to ask questions about what you do not understand and to go back and redo any problem you did not complete correctly on the first attempt. Your teacher will check and record whether or not you have made an authentic attempt of every question in a hw assignment. But that assignment, by itself, will not count toward your grade.

Instead, you will take hw quizzes throughout the unit. What is a **HW QUIZ**? A hw quiz is an instrument designed to reward the diligent student who completes and checks homework using the correct methods. Randomly throughout the unit, you may be asked to show the question, the correct solution process and/or the answer on homework we have completed during the unit.

We can’t say it enough: It is important not only that you attempt all the problems on a daily hw assignment (even when you’re absent), but it is MORE important that you ask questions about what you do not understand (even when you’re absent) and go back and redo problems you did not get correct on the first attempt (even when you’re absent).

**Attendance Issues**

School policy regarding attendance will be followed diligently

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| How do I get notes and find out missed assignments when I am absent? You will check the website and daily agenda and ask your friend to copy notes (or get a key from me) and to find out what you have to do to catch up. There is an absent bin in the classroom where you will find assignments from the previous day. This bin is for ABSENT students only, not for students who lose an assignment. 1. **How do I check work from an absence?**

We recommend every student have a study buddy with whom he or she can check missed work. Students can also ask me for the key to the worksheet/assignment.1. **Will the teacher keep track of how many tardies I have and remind me of when I’m close to detention?**

No. You know when you are tardy and you are fully aware of the consequences for being tardy too often. | 1. **What if I’m absent on the day of a test or on a day when you collect something for a grade?**

If you have an excused absence only on the day a graded assignment is due or a test is given, then that assignment will be due and the test will be taken on the day you return to school. If your absence was longer than one consecutive day prior to the due date of the assignment or test, students will receive a grace period of one day for each consecutive day of missed school and agree with Ms. Joseph on a make-up date.UNEXCUSED ABSENCE will result in a zero on the assignment and the student will not be able to make up that test or assignment. 1. **School Business**

Students who are absent due to school business do not have an extra day to make up missed work and should make up their work the day before.  |

All DHS9 policies will be enforced in the classroom. These include:

* No large backpacks – only backpacks with strings are allowed
* No eating or drinking - only water bottles are allowed in the classroom
* Dress code will be enforced
* Ms. Joseph’s classroom is a red room (no cell phones) unless stated otherwise

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Sometimes, a student just won’t cooperate...what happens then? The DHS five step referral process will be used for reoccurring discipline issues.  | Sometimes, students cheat. What happens then? We will always refer to the DHS Academic Integrity Policy, posted in the classroom. |

**What if I have to talk to the teacher about a disagreement?**

* Please give suggestions for improving class…don’t complain.
* Your teacher cares about you and wants the best for you. Let your teacher know about any concerns you have right away. It is ALWAYS better to be honest about your feelings than to keep them bottled up.

**Can I get help after/before school?**

After/Before school help may be scheduled by appointment. If you need any assistance after school, please let me know and we can pick a day that works.

**What can parents do to help?**

1. Print the unit schedule off the class website, **http://ejoseph10.weebly.com**, after each new unit. Post it somewhere where you can see it every day. The weekly agenda will also be listed.
2. Ask your son or daughter to show you the class notes from that day. Have your student explain to you what he or she learned.
3. Check your son or daughter’s homework against the assignment shown on the schedule.
4. **Communicate** with your student about his or her progress.
5. Parents are welcome to call or email as often as necessary to satisfy their concerns.

**REMIND 101: Text messages: To sign up for periodic text message reminders from Ms. Joseph**

* **Send the text message @geojoseph to 81010**