

Dear Parent/Guardian of an AP Calculus Student:

Welcome to AP Calculus! I am eager to begin working with you and your child toward our communal goal of learning Calculus skills and passing the AP exam at the end of the year. We have a great deal to accomplish, but taken one step at a time, we will reach our goal.

Over the next months, you should expect to see your child working very hard so that they can pass the test. There will be approximately 45 minutes worth of homework each and every night. Please ensure that your child has enough space and time to do the homework problems. Every problem that a child tries for homework puts them closer to passing the AP exam. Encourage your child to try every single problem, even if they are not sure that they have gotten the problem right. We will go over the correct solutions to the problems in class, but it is the work they do to understand the problems that makes them ready for the exam.

Throughout the course, students will work on a selected amount of problems from the AP exam workbook. The emphasis is on students explaining and justifying their responses verbally and on paper.

These problems serve as a wonderful review and helps prepare the students for the types of problems on the AP exam.

In both Calculus BC and Calculus AB we cover all topics outlined in the AP Calculus Course Description Guide. The two stated objectives of this course are that the students do well on the AP Exam and in subsequent courses. Consequently, there is an attempt to balance understanding, skills, and use of technology.

All students are required to keep a notebook which will be periodically evaluated. The notebook will consist of notes for each section and daily assignments which will include problems that require the student to explain solutions both verbally and in written sentences.

TECHNOLOGY: All students will need a T-I 84 plus graphing calculator. Each student should learn the basic use of the calculator before school begins. Throughout each section there are specific problems in which the calculator will be used for solving problems, supporting solutions, interpreting results, and experimentation.

I am looking forward to a productive and successful year. Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time via email at dwilliams@yorktown.k12.in.us.

David B. Williams, Yorktown AP Calculus Teacher