

Pre-Calculus – 2024-2025
Expectations from Coach Koehr

“I don’t want to pass my life through and settle for some kind of refined mediocrity.”

- Fr. Hudgins

“Excellence is not merely compatible with Catholicism. Excellence is required by Catholicism.”

- Coach Jim Koehr

Teachers:

- I will be your primary math teacher for the year, but whenever I have to travel for business, I have enlisted the help of Mrs. Zadnik, an outstanding and experienced teacher.
- Mrs. Zadnik is not a “substitutes”, and I will not provide additional review for the material she teaches.
- You will likely have them for class at least a few days per month depending on the demand on me for business travel.

Required Supplies:

- A quad-ruled (graph paper) notebook for class notes and homework. Pages in the notebook should be easily removed with no ragged edges. No spiral or marble notebooks unless the pages are perforated.
- A sturdy folder or binder to keep completed tests and handouts. Make sure you save all your old quizzes!
- A TI-84 Calculator will be required for all students from Algebra II thru Calculus.
- A mechanical pencil and a “Pink Pearl” gum eraser.
- A red pen to check your homework.
- By the day following the distribution of textbooks, each student will be required to have a tasteful cover on the book.

Tests:

- There will be a quiz every week, usually Friday, with a mid-term and a final exam.
- You can assume the Friday quizzes will cover all material reviewed in class up through Tuesday of that week, but depending on the complexity of the topic, I may put Wednesday’s material on that week’s Friday’s quiz.
- The honor code will be written at the end of the test, after you have completed your work. Teaching you to be a person of integrity is more important to me than teaching you math.
- If you understand the homework, you should do quite well on the quizzes and exams.
- If you miss a quiz or exam, YOU are responsible for scheduling the make-up with me. I will not track you down.
- Make-up quizzes may or may not be different than the original quiz.
- I will give you up to one week to make up a missed quiz. After that, 5 points will be deducted for each day – I’d really rather not see it get to that point though.

Homework:

- Attached are the homework assignments for most of the year. If we cover the section in class, then the homework is due. I will not remind you that you have homework.
- I will post solutions to the homework on Jupiter Ed. I will also post them on www.setonswimming.org - go to “Coach Koehr’s Blog”, scroll to the bottom, and click on “Last” in the lower right to go to the oldest dated blog. You should see “Coach Koehr’s Pre-Calculus Solutions”.
- All homework for the week should be attempted by the beginning of class every Thursday.

- In general, I will dedicate Thursday's class to review and to answer homework questions. **You may call my cell phone at any time day or night – really.** My number is (540) 379-8328. If I cannot answer, I won't. Don't bother to call my house – no one ever answers.
- **Those who have CORRECTLY completed EVERY assigned problem by Friday will receive an additional 5 points on their Friday tests.**
 - Please use a red pen to check each problem that you have verified.
 - If your notebook is not neat enough for me to easily see what you've done, no points will be awarded.
 - These points are a gift.
 - I reserve the right to deny the bonus points for reasons unrelated to homework.
 - You must be present to win. If you miss the quiz for any reason, you will not be eligible for the homework points.
- Complete homework is required for all students. If you do not want to do all your homework, you are in the wrong class.
- We will start each class with an SAT math problem. If we do that every day for the next year, and if you spend the year with me mastering this material, there is no reason that you should not crush the Math sections of the SAT.

Grading:

- Quarter grades will be the average of the Friday quizzes, all weighted equally.
 - Each Quarter grade is worth 20% of your final grade.
- We will also take a Seton-standard Mid-Term and Final Exam
 - Each exam will be worth 10% of your final grade.
- If you have sought extra help and completed 100% of the applicable homework, you may retake up to 2 tests each quarter.
 - I will average the grades between the original and the retake
 - The retake may or may not be a different quiz
- I reserve the right to adjust a grade based on homework, class participation, attitude, and appearance.
- I will not grade on a curve. It is possible for everyone in the class to earn a "A" for the year.
 - If you do what I ask and give your best effort, that should be readily attainable.

Additional Help:

- The National Honor Society has a tutoring program.
- Anyone who gets below a 'B' on a quiz will be strongly encouraged to seek extra help to master the material. This help could be from another student in the class, a parent, another advanced student, or an NHS tutor. Math builds on itself – do not let yourself get behind.

Overall Expectations:

- Math can be enjoyable. If it couldn't be, I wouldn't be teaching it.
- I communicate regularly with you and your parents via Jupiter Ed. I assume you are checking your messages.
- Excellence shows in all aspects of your life, including the way you dress. Before you walk in the door of class, make sure you are in complete compliance with both the spirit and the letter of the dress code.
- Be on time and ready to go. I'll do that for you also.
- I encourage you to work together on your homework. That's how it works in the real world anyway. When you put your honor code on homework, you are saying "I have made every attempt to completely understand what I have done".
- If you miss a class, you are still fully responsible for all the material.

Seton School
Pre-Calculus – 2024-2025

August 23, 2023

Coach Koehr,

To be in your Pre-Calculus class, I commit to the following:

- I will do everything I reasonably can to earn an “A” in Algebra II this year. I will not accept mediocrity from myself.
- **I commit to attempt every problem in my homework by two nights before the quiz, typically Wednesday night.**
- **I commit to have my homework 100% complete and 100% correct prior to the quiz each week, typically Friday. (I know you give me the answers, but I will make sure I understand them)**
- I commit to ask a question in class whenever I am lost, because I know others probably have the same question.
- I commit to be on time and have all of the required supplies for class each day.
- I commit to participate fully in class and not disrupt others.
- I commit to seek extra help whenever necessary.
- I will not hesitate to form study groups with others in the class to help me prepare for weekly quizzes.
- I will feel free to call you on your cell phone at (540) 379-8328 whenever my other efforts to seek help have failed.
- When I miss class or a quiz, I commit to taking personal responsibility for the missed material. I will not rely on you to track me down and tell me what I need to make-up.
- I commit to having access to Jupiter Ed messages and I will check those messages regularly, even if it is my parent’s e-mail.
- When I am not meeting my commitments, my parents commit to getting involved to help me refocus.
- I have read your class expectations, and I am fully committed to meeting them with my personal best effort.

I make this commitment willingly. You can count on me to be a person of integrity.

Respectfully,

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Printed Name

Parent Names (both of them, if applicable)