

Dear Students (and Parents),

Hi there! I'm going to be your math teacher for the rest of the school year, and I wanted to take a few minutes to tell you a bit about myself and what I'm planning for the rest of the year.

My name is Margaret Claypool. If you're over 18, you get to call me Meg, but otherwise you can call me Ms. Claypool 😊 I grew up in Eureka and attended EHS and HSU. I have a bachelor's degree in Mathematics and have taught math for 10 years. I taught 8th grade math up in Crescent City for 5 years, and then I taught high school math for 2 years in Busan, South Korea and 2 years in Warsaw, Poland. Then I came back to Eureka to be with family, and taught another year of middle school math at South Bay. I'm in the middle of transitioning to a career in web development, so in the afternoons I'm interning with a web development company based in the Bay Area. Happily, that leaves my mornings free to teach math 😊

Naturally, as a web developer I have a class website! Visit <http://math.claypool.me> to see a calendar with each day's homework and class notes (click "more details" to view & download any worksheets or notes). I also have a section of my website called "Concept Review" with links to tutorial videos and practice problems for the concepts we're working on.

Grades

Homework: 25%

Classwork/Participation: 25%

Assessment: 50%

I do accept late homework. An assignment is worth 10 points at the beginning of class the next day. For each school day it's late, it goes down 1 point, so after two weeks the assignment isn't worth points anymore (though it still may be worth completing for the practice.) Of course, if you're absent you get that many days free to complete your homework for full credit.

I also grade my quizzes a bit differently from most teachers. Each quiz has several concepts, and each concept gets a separate grade. That way students (and parents) know what they understand and what they need to study some more. I will reassess these concepts, and new scores replace old scores. So if you learn the concept a bit later, your old grade gets replaced with your new score! Students are also welcome to schedule lunchtime quizzes with me — I need a couple of days notice to write you a custom quiz for whichever concepts you've studied and improved 😊 Since these are ongoing scores I made the due date June 9th, when I'll be cutting off quizzes for those concepts.

If you need extra help studying or working on homework, in addition to the videos on my webpage I also offer tutoring and homework help at lunchtime. It can get a bit crazy if we've got a bunch of students studying different things, but you're welcome to come get a bit of extra help 😊

I'm looking forward to spending the last weeks of school with you, and I invite you to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. My email address is claypoolm@eurekacityschools.org.

Sincerely,

Ms. Claypool