

## WCI Mathematics and General FAQ for Parents and Guardians

The WCI School Parent Council has provided information to WCI parents to help with communications in the teacher / student / parent partnership, and to support parents in supporting their youth in the area of mathematics. If you have feedback or questions on this information, please contact the School Parent Council.

### General Communications for Parents and Students

**1. Who is my son's or daughter's teacher?**

The teachers' names are listed on the student's timetable.

**2. What are standard times when I can meet the teacher?**

You can meet the teacher at Grade 9 night (September) and Parent-Teacher night (once per semester), for short discussions. You may contact a teacher for a phone call, email connection, or set up a mutually agreeable time for a personal meeting at any time.

**3. What if I have more specific questions or concerns?**

To ask for a meeting time, you can contact the teacher through voicemail on the school's phone system, or by email with the address listed on the Staff List.

**4. How can the teacher contact me?**

You can consent to teachers contacting you by providing your email address on the WCI website (*Parents / Guardians Add your email address to your child's contact info*).

**5. How do I stay informed about general things happening at the school?**

You can subscribe to the WCI website updates with *Get News from this Website* and keep an eye on *Upcoming Events*.

### Detailed Course Support and Math Support Information for Parents and Students

**6. Where can I find out more information about math in general?**

You can look up information on the WCI Math website <http://wci.wrdsb.ca/academics/mathematics/> , or on the School Council Web Page linked from the Quick Links on the WCI home page.

**7. How do I know the content of the course?**

There is a Course Outline that describes the content of the whole course; it may be delivered to the student on paper or electronically.

There are Unit Outlines that detail the content of each unit and list references to the textbook and homework questions.

The course follows the Ontario Secondary School math curriculum, available at this link.

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/secondary/math.html>

**8. How much Math homework will my son or daughter have?**

In order to learn the material, completing homework is one of the most important things that a student will do. With the semester system, it is common that there is math homework every night; however, since the class time is longer, there may be some time during class to do homework.

Occasionally, in an evening, a student may be unable to answer a homework question. They should write it out as far as possible and check with the teacher the next day or next class.

The Unit Outline lists assigned homework questions per section. There may also be a specific review worksheet with questions before a test or exam. Parents can check with their son or daughter to see that they are doing the homework and review questions. To help with mental calculations, occasionally a student could practice solving problems without a calculator.

When the student receives a test back, they should review the results and learn from them.

Talk to your son or daughter and be aware of the situation, but the student remains responsible for their work.

**9. How do I know how my son or daughter is doing in terms of a grade in the course?**

Regularly understand your student's status by talking with them and reviewing their test experiences. Report cards are issued in the middle and at the end of a semester.

Contact the teacher if you have concerns.

**10. What math course should my son or daughter sign up for?**

There are a variety of choices tailored to the student's needs. When choosing the next course, you can consult with the student's current math teacher or talk to the Guidance department.

There are courses available at these levels: Applied, Academic, Pre-AP / AP (Advanced Placement).

See also the WCI Math Flowchart on the WCI Math webpage for possible pathways for your student.

**11. How can my attitude as a parent support my son's or daughter's approach to math?**

Parents can have a large impact on the student's attitude and approach to math. Try to have a positive and supportive approach to the student's efforts in math. Note that many students can be successful in math through practice and understanding the principles. Supporting your child through failed attempts in their homework, and practice is also important. You can help them recognize that *we learn through our unsuccessful attempts*.

**Resources for Students**

**12. Where can students go for extra math help?**

A student may need encouragement from a parent that it is useful to go for extra help. The classroom teacher is always the first point of contact for extra help. Following are a variety of resources for students to get extra help.

- Teacher during class
- Teacher during an additional help time

- Teacher during a VIPE period
- Guidance department (study skills)
- Textbook
- Homework club
- Peers
- Online resources, and especially Ontario Ministry of Education Math Homework Help at <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/elearning/homework.html>
- Tutor (rarely, at the parents' choice; a tutor could be found at universities, online sites, or at commercial organizations.)

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