



Ellen Estrada
Principal

Walter Payton College Preparatory High School
“We Nurture Leaders”
We Celebrate Success... Self, Family, Community
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Character – Courage – Curiosity - Compassion

Mike Hermes
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Assistant Principals

September 2, 2008

Dear Parents/ Guardians:

My name is Paul J. Karafiol and I will be teaching your son/daughter in Precalculus BC this year. Some of you may already know me as your son/daughter's math team coach or Algebra-Trig teacher. For others of you, this year is our first opportunity to work together. In either case, I look forward to partnering with you through the year to help your child have a rich and enjoyable learning experience in Precalculus BC.

As this is an upper-level course, I will likely address most concerns about your child's progress to him or her directly. By this point, I expect students to manage their time effectively, seek out help when they need it, and be responsible for completing their assignments and turning them in on time. Since my goal is to challenge all students in the course, it is likely that every student will be confused, or feel slightly overwhelmed, at least once this year; I hope that by working through such moments together, we can better prepare these students for the challenges of AP and college-level math classes. If those moments are more than isolated occurrences, or if you have any concern about your child's progress, please feel free to contact me at any time. The best way to reach me is via email (pjkarafiol@cps.edu) but you may also leave a voicemail for me at (773) 534-0034 x25006.

Attached to this letter are the expectations I have for all students in Precalculus BC. Some of these expectations are different from those in lower-level courses, so even if you and I have worked together in the past, please review the sheet and discuss these expectations with your son/daughter. Please contact me with any questions or concerns that arise from your discussion. I want to be sure that we are all on the same page regarding these expectations.

Finally, I am asking that you fill out the questionnaire attached to this page. The questionnaire includes a request for contact information and a few questions that will help me better understand what your son/daughter needs to be successful in this class.

Thank you for taking the time to review this letter and the attached materials and to fill out the section below. I look forward to seeing you during curriculum night.

Sincerely,

Paul J. Karafiol
Mathematics Teacher

Contact Information for Paul J. Karafiol– Precalculus BC Teacher

Phone: (773) 534-0034 x25006 (a voice mailbox only)

Fax: (773) 534-0035

Email: pjkarafiol@cps.edu (best way to reach me)

Web: sites.wpcp.org/karafiolp

Parent Questionnaire and Contact Information Sheet

Student's Name _____

Parent's / Guardian's Name _____

1) Do you have an email account which you check regularly that I can use to communicate with you? If so, please provide your email address below.

2) Please indicate your preferred method of communication (If you prefer to be contacted by phone, please provide, along with your phone number, times of day that I can best reach you).

3) Do you have any specific concerns as your child begins this course?

4) What are your hopes and expectations for your child this year?

5) If your child is confused or has academic difficulty during the year, what strategies do you expect him/her to use to regain his/her footing?

What do you expect your role to be?

What do you expect my role to be?

6) Are there any circumstances I need to be aware of or additional information I need to help me better work with your child?

Please sign below to indicate that you have read and reviewed the class policies and expectations and that you agree to abide by them.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____