

# HSML PARENT INFORMATION

## Mrs. Christy Edwards' Math Classes

### MY CONTACT INFORMATION

#### **If you have questions please contact me at**

Call/text: 713-204-6620

Email: Christy.Edwards@highschoolmathlive.com *OR*

ChristyCEdwards@gmail.com

#### **Please mail tuition to:**

Christy Edwards

17022 Colony Creek Drive

Spring, TX 7737

### PAYMENT:

#### **Class Cost:**

The annual tuition for Pre-Algebra is \$500 and for Algebra 1 is \$550.

Registration implies a commitment to the full year of class.

#### **Tuition may be paid in one of the three following ways:**

- ❖ One payment up front (due August 1<sup>st</sup>)
  - Algebra 1 - \$550 and Pre-Algebra - \$500.
- ❖ Two payments (one payment each semester on August 1 and January 1<sup>st</sup>)
  - Algebra 1 - \$475 and Pre-Algebra - \$250.
- ❖ Ten monthly payments over 10 months.
  - Algebra 1 - \$55 and Pre-Algebra - \$50.
  - Payment is due by the first day of the month. A late fee of \$5.00 per week late will be due after that time. If, for any reason, you must withdraw your child from the class after class sessions have begun, two months of tuition is due at that time.

#### **Payment methods:**

- ❖ Payment may be remitted as ten postdated checks that I will hold and deposit throughout the school year.
- ❖ Monthly payments may be mailed to me to arrive by the first of the month beginning in August.
- ❖ Have your bank set up automatic bill pay or EFT. I can give you my Wells Fargo account information upon request.
- ❖ Via PayPal you may “send money” to me using either of my email addresses. You’ll need to send a little extra to cover the fee for using PayPal.
  - Ten monthly payments would be as follows: Algebra 1 - \$57 and Pre-Algebra - \$51.75.
  - Semester payments as follows: Algebra 1 - \$283.50 and Pre-Algebra - \$257.75.
  - One payment for the year as follows: Algebra 1 - \$566.25 and Pre-Algebra - \$515.

### TEXTBOOKS - STUDENT EDITION INFORMATION

*amazon.com, dealoz.com, findbookprices.com*

#### ❖ **Glencoe Pre-Algebra Student Edition**

Publisher: Glencoe/McGraw-Hill; 1 edition (February 26, 2002)

Authors: Carol Malloy, Jack Price, Teri Willard, Leon L. Sloan

ISBN (ISBN-13): 978-0078252006

MHID (ISBN-10): 0078252008

#### ❖ **Glencoe Algebra 1 Student Edition**

Publisher: Glencoe/McGraw-Hill (January 1, 2005)

Authors: Berchie Holliday, Gilbert Cuevas, Beatrice Moore-

Harris, John A. Carter

ISBN (ISBN-13): 978-0078651137

MHID (ISBN-10): 0078651131

## **VIRTUAL CLASS NECESSITIES:**

To have a great virtual class experience, please be prepared by completing the following:

Be sure you have a **good internet connection**.

Purchase a computer **headset/headphones (microphone optional)** if you don't already have one. You can find them at local stores or on Amazon.com by searching "computer headset with microphone". Be sure to add "with USB" to your search if you plan to plug into a USB port on your computer. USB headsets seem to have a high quality of audio.

## **WEBSITE PAGE MEMBERSHIP to access CLASS RECORDINGS and other IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS**

Upon enrollment, you become a "member" and can access the appropriate class page on our website. You should have received an invitation to join and login. You will be able to visit the page(s) for the class for which your child(ren) is registered. Please email me if you have trouble logging in or if you did not get access to the correct class pages.

ALL classes are recorded but they are too large to email. Your class recordings will be posted to the class pages on the website. It is a good idea to let your students have access to the page as they will have to login in order to view the recordings. Class recordings are helpful when students must miss classes, but also can be used between classes to review concepts. These media files can be fast forwarded easily. The files are actually housed on YouTube but they are unlisted so that they can only be accessed through the class webpage after logging in.

You will find other important links on the student page. The orientation video (that parents and students will want to watch before class begins) is at the top of the page. You will also find this information document, a school calendar, a link to a shared folder, and a syllabus for the year called the "Homework Schedule". We do our best to keep to this schedule throughout the year but each class is different and sometimes the pace must change to ensure the students are mastering the material.

## **ORIENTATION VIDEO**

Your first task: Log in to the website page and view the recording that is posted there. It is a 30 minute orientation video that is directed to parents. There are a few changes, so please view the video even if you are not a first year parent/student.

## **MEETING SOFTWARE:**

We use Citrix **GoToMeeting** which is a meeting software that is used by many corporations to hold meetings. We pay a monthly fee to access this which is built into the cost of the course. GoToMeeting provides a way to record class sessions and allows for private and public chats. Chatting is used often in class to answer practice questions, but private chats between students are discouraged.

When it is time to log in for class, the student should follow these instructions:

1. Save the site as a favorite in your browser: [joingotomeeting.com](http://joingotomeeting.com)
2. Keep the meeting ID for your class handy with your math book and notes.  
Meeting ID for Algebra 1 is 822-896-157. Meeting ID for Pre-Algebra is 336-337-229.

### **FRIDAY TESTS AND QUIZZES:**

Each student will be expected to take a quiz or a test at the end of each week. This will be emailed to parents by Wednesday of each week and you may give it to your student at any time after their last class of that week. **Quizzes are due by Friday at 11am.** Quizzes turned in on time will be graded and returned on Friday. **Tests are due by Sunday at 6pm.** Tests turned in on time will be graded and returned on Monday and Tuesday. Ten points will be taken off of any paper that is not turned in on time unless a PARENT emails me and requests an extension.

Quizzes and tests should be returned as a scan via email (christy.edwards@highschoolmathlive.com or christycedwards@gmail.com) or fax (877-609-3816). If you run into major scanning troubles, I will accept clear photos of papers if needed. We suggest that you set aside a time each week in your child's schedule to complete these assignments, i.e. Friday morning at 9am.

### **SUPPLIES:**

- ❖ Student Edition of Glencoe Math Textbook (see above for info)
- ❖ Suggested - 2 spiral notebooks (one for notes and one for homework) or a large spiral with at least 2 sections
- ❖ Pencils, with erasers (at least 2 pencils each day)
- ❖ Suggested - Highlighter(s) (to enhance notetaking)
- ❖ Graph paper (4 squares per inch) – you can download and print graphing paper at mathbits.com
- ❖ Protractor – which can also be used as a straightedge
- ❖ Basic Calculator – used to work through algebra problems more quickly by handling operations with fractions and decimals or finding square roots. At times calculators will not be allowed.
- ❖ A *Graphing Calculator* is okay to purchase but not necessary at this level
  - The book includes “Graphing Calculator Investigations” to help students discover connections between equations and graphs. The book refers to a “TI-83 Plus” calculator, but TI-82, TI-83 and TI-84 are all very good. A graphing calculator will be used in higher level math classes and college math classes.
- ❖ PLEASE NOTE – Pens of any sort are not appropriate for completing homework, quizzes or tests in math. I love giving partial credit on tests with NEAT work shown. Parents, I encourage you to enforce the “pencil only” rule.

### **COMMUNICATION:**

I do most of my communicating with parents and students via email. Please let me know of email address or phone number changes as soon as possible. Over-communication is welcome!

I will be sending quizzes and tests via email that need to be kept confidential until you, the parent, administers it to your child in a “test like” setting. If you share an “inbox” with others, please be sure that emails from me are not misplaced and are able to be kept confidential. These tests and quizzes are to be administered to your enrolled student and then “deleted” from your computer. In order for my class to be valid, there should never be copies of my tests or quizzes being “passed around” between

siblings or between other homeschooled students. Please help me by ensuring the validity of my assessment tools. Remember quizzes, tests and class recordings are the intellectual property of the teacher.

Texting is a wonderful way to quickly communicate with me, so feel free to text me if you have a sudden need or emergency at 713-204-6620. I have small children who can make an uninterrupted phone call difficult, but if you would like to speak on the phone please leave a message and I will return your call as promptly as possible.

Absences – If you are able to do so, please let me know if your child must be absent from class. Remember that all classes are recorded so they can always catch up by watching the class they missed and even doing the homework before the next class meeting. We want to provide homeschooling families flexibility, so please let me know if your child/your family will be traveling and you and I can discuss a plan to complete assignments once your child returns to class.

**STUDENT RULES FOR CLASS CONDUCT:** *(I will cover these rules with your child on the first day of class - please read them for your information)*

**Sit down at your computer about 5 minutes before class is set to begin.** This way of attending a class is very convenient because you don't have to drive anywhere, but you still need to get your computer up and running, log into GoToMeeting, and track down your headset with microphone, book, pencil, homework and notebook.

**Stay focused on the class.** Let's be honest – sitting at a computer provides many opportunities for distraction! Therefore please refrain from instant messaging, chatting, surfing, texting, shopping, Facebook stalking, and any other activities that distract your focus from class involvement.

**Students should respect the teacher** by being recognized prior to asking a question or going off-screen. The software allows students to send private instant messages directly to the teacher but can also be used to private message other students. Private messaging other students within the class draws attention away from the lesson and is not allowed. Students should stay in front of their computer at all times unless they inform the teacher via private instant message that they must step away.

**Students should respect their classmates** by showing kindness and courtesy in their words and actions. In a virtual environment this would include muting your microphone unless instructed to speak by the teacher. Students should not send instant messages to each other during class or use their camera access to distract others.

**Students must complete assigned homework.** Homework will not be turned in to the teacher in the virtual classroom environment; however, math concepts must be practiced and repeated to be learned. Math concepts build upon themselves quickly. Grades are comprised of tests and quizzes, which will be difficult to “ace” if a student is not completing the homework. In some cases, a parent may decide to grade homework and include it in the student's grade. Answers to odd problems are in the back of the

book. Students should check odd answers to their homework so that they are able to ask questions about questions they do not understand.

**Absences:** Please communicate if a student will be missing class. The student is responsible to review the class recording and complete the assigned homework as quickly as possible. The student is welcome to attend another section of my classes if that will remedy their need to completely miss class. Please email me if you would like to attend another section of class for a particular lesson.

### **GRADING:**

The syllabus provided on your class webpage will have a column where you and your child may keep track of their grades. Weights of grades are detailed below. Numerical grades will be determined each semester, with a mid-term grade given each semester at around 9 weeks. A final, overall grade will be given at the end of the school year for your use on your child's transcript. Homework will not be included in the average grade, but understanding and completing homework is a necessity for success on tests, quizzes and future math classes. If you frequently check your child's homework assignments, you will send the message that homework is important.

As the parent, you are ultimately responsible for issuing grades. If it would help you to encourage your student to do their homework on a daily basis, you are welcome to assign a daily completion grade for their homework.

Then, you may take the average that I give you and give them a final grade that consists of 90% my number and 10% homework completion (or 80/20 if you desire).

Please confirm receipt of the official grade reports that are sent to you, the parent, via email at these four times each year.

- ❖ Tests (including Final Exam): 60%; usually 15-30 problems; I give lots of "partial credit" on tests with work shown neatly
- ❖ Quizzes: 40%; usually 5 – 8 problems; Quizzes are shorter but the questions are worth more, so be careful to turn in your best work! Usually a student will also have a homework assignment over the time the quiz is assigned. Problems from the new lesson will not be included on the quiz.
- ❖ Letter grade assignment based on numerical average:
  - A: 90-100%
  - B: 80-89%
  - C: 70-79%
  - D: 65-69%
  - F: 0-64%

### **A TYPICAL DAY:**

- ❖ Attendance/teacher takes note of who is not in class.
- ❖ Q & A over prior homework assignment. Odd answers should be checked beforehand to save time and to determine where to ask questions.
- ❖ New lesson, students take notes in their note-taking spiral and ask questions

- ❖ Students practice the new concept that the teacher writes on the board. Students will send their answers via private message to the teacher. There is a lot of interaction during this time. All students should participate.
- ❖ Students log off and complete their new homework assignment prior to the next class (listed in the Homework Schedule).

### **CURRICULUM:**

As a homeschooling family, I am your partner in teaching math to your child. Therefore, I would like to explain in detail the curriculum that I will be using to teach so that you feel very comfortable inserting yourself into your child’s math education at any moment.

High School Math Live classes are not a replacement for your involvement in your child’s math education. Math is a subject that needs to be reinforced often. Homework assignments are a great opportunity for you, the parent, to check your child’s understanding. Homework assignments will be mostly odd problems (answers in the back of the book). I suggest setting up a schedule for your child to work on their math homework assignments throughout the week. This teaches them time management and allows them to practice their math often so that they retain concepts before the next class meeting.

### **The Glencoe Math Book:**

- I will email each of you who are enrolled an invitation to “share” a PDF of the Glencoe book via my Google drive. The file is too large to email. This is for your convenience if you would like to load it onto a computer or iPad (etc.) in case of travel, etc. It is best for students to use their actual book during class.
- Chapters include multiple sections which introduce math concepts that build upon previous concepts.
- Each section explains “What” the student will learn and “How” they will learn it. Then “Key Concepts” are introduced. Finally, “Examples” are shown with step-by-step solutions. I will teach from these “Examples” so that the students can refer back to them when they are on their own.
- Students will be expected to take notes on each new concept as a reinforcement of what they are seeing and hearing. This will be another resource for them to refer to when they are working problems on their own. At this level, I will be guiding them in the process of learning how to take notes, so if this is a new skill for them – no problem! Also, since this is a virtual class, I will not be checking their notebooks, so it would be a good idea for you to ask to see their notes on a regular basis.
- Homework assignments will be assigned after every class and will typically range between 25-40 problems.

### **Managing Remediation:**

- **Re-watching the class recording, or a part of the class recording, is the BEST way** for students to be reminded of how to correctly work homework problems and review for quizzes and tests.

- You can check out other helpful free websites like [www.khanacademy.org](http://www.khanacademy.org) or [www.ixl.com](http://www.ixl.com).
- Have your child do the even numbered homework problems. I will gladly send you a picture of the correct answers from the teacher's manual via text or email.
- I have many extra worksheets for each and every section in the book that I can scan and share with parents as requested (including answer keys).

**Extra Help:**

- Each class will begin with an opportunity for your child to ask questions from the previous homework assignment. If a student is unable to answer a question or two from the homework, do not worry (or let your child worry). Be assured that I will answer questions at the beginning of class. There will also be time during class for a student to try working problems from the new assignment. If needed, I can arrange to meet with your child virtually for a few minutes before or after class if they are struggling with more than just 1 – 2 homework problems.
- If class time, extra help and parent guided remediation (explained above) are not enough and your child is still struggling to understand a certain concept, tutoring may be needed. I can provide individual tutoring virtually. Because no one has to drive for this type of tutoring, I do not have the usual one-hour lesson minimum. Virtual tutoring can last for 15 minutes or 1 hour and 15 minutes. Please contact me directly to discuss schedule and rates. Please be assured that enrolled students will receive discounts on the tutoring rates listed on our website.