GEOMETRY **BALTZ**
COURSE INFORMATION

COURSE OVERVIEW-
Do you know why you are taking this class? You can read the official course description if you want, but Geometry is not about math as you know it. Geometry is the only course in all of high school dedicated to developing your critical thinking skills. ***It is about figuring stuff out***. You will become more skilled at applying logic, understanding definitions, discovering relationships and patterns, using reasoning and exploring ALL possibilities and/or impossibilities in any given situation. It just happens that the beauty, elegance, logic and consistency of mathematics, particularly Geometry, contribute perfectly to this art. Speaking of art, Geometry also allows us to explore, prove and manipulate some of the most interesting properties of distance, shape, and design. This is a fun class that will call upon your prior skills but not subject you to any "new" math. Geometry is not about arithmetic, so try not to think about finding x so much as finding ***why*** (get it?). The sooner you buy into this way of thinking, the better off you will be.

PREREQUISITES-
In order to enroll in Geometry, you must have passed both semesters of Algebra 1. To enroll in semester 2, you must first pass semester 1.

TEXTBOOK-
The textbook for this course is Discovering Geometry: An Investigative Approach, Fourth Edition (2008), Key Curriculum Press (now Kendall Hunt). For online assistance, additional study materials and supplemental resources, go to www.math.kendallhunt.com.

CONTENT-
There are three main areas on which you should focus your attention in this class. The arithmetic is secondary to all of these things. To be successful in this class you must make a commitment to learn the ***vocabulary*** and the facts (***concepts*** and ***formulas***). You will learn a lot of new vocabulary in this course, and you will be unable to understand what a problem is asking of you if you aren't using the vocabulary correctly. The facts that you must know I divide into two categories: concepts and formulas. Concepts are the rules of the game. They may be definitions, postulates, theorems, properties, or anything we know or have proven to be true. Concepts must be developed and memorized to the extent that you can apply them to the assessments. Some chapters apply formulas. It is not my expectation that you memorize formulas. They will be provided for you during the tests and Final Exam. Just make sure you know how to select and use the appropriate formula to solve your problem.

SCORING-

Daily Assignments:	5 points for all problems attempted and all diagrams and work shown 4 points for most problems attempted and all diagrams and work shown 1 point for anything less than above 0 missing assignment
Participation:	Up to 10 points per chapter/unit. You earn points for contributing to the learning environment and staying engaged in the demonstrations and activities. You may lose points for distracting from the learning environment or coming to class unprepared.
Objective Check:	10 points per chapter/unit based on a distribution of your daily warm-up exercises.
Quizzes:	Points vary. Quizzes are a great way to gauge your understanding for an upcoming test.
Other projects:	As time and points allow…
Tests:	Always 100 points.


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GEOMETRY ASSESSMENTS-
Tests are prepared based upon careful consideration of the material covered, the standards, and the level of difficulty. Questions are open-ended and require thoughtful approach to the methods that have been learned. The correct answer is not necessarily the most important objective. Whenever possible, I will offer partial credit for valid steps that are shown and are clearly relevant to the question.

Test Rules: ***Silence until everyone is finished.***
Absolutely no personal devices until everyone is finished.
Demonstrate your own knowledge and understanding.
Show all work and attempt every problem.
Ask questions and check your answers.
Good luck and have fun!

Final Exams are given at the end of each grading period. The format changes from time to time, but historically they have been departmental exams and are primarily multiple-choice--unlike the unit tests in this class. The Final exam comprises a total of 20% of your semester grade. It will not impact your 9-weeks grade. The geometry team does not recognize the option to "skip-a-final."

A student can retake a maximum of 2 geometry quizzes per semester. There will be a few quizzes over the course of the year that cannot be retaken. Students will be informed ahead of time if a quiz cannot be retaken. In order to retake a quiz, all homework needs to be completed. If the student has missing assignments, they will not be allowed to retake the quiz. The retake grade replaces the original grade, even if the retake quiz grade is lower. The retake must be done before the student starts the test for that particular chapter. Tests cannot be retaken.