

**WAPPINGERS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS**

SUGGESTIONS ON...

HOW TO STUDY MATHEMATICS

1. Be prepared for class. The minimum supplies for each classroom lesson are pencil or pen, notebook and textbook. Special supplies such as graph paper, ruler, protractor or compass may be required for some chapters during the year. Check with your teacher to find out which additional supplies will be needed.
2. Set aside a study area at home that is quiet, well-lighted and free of distractions. This increases your chances for learning the most information in the least amount of time.
3. Your class notes should contain:
 - a) Any definitions, proofs, or solved problems that the teacher presents to the class.
 - b) The pages in the text to be read and the exercises to be completed for homework.
4. Maintain a list of the symbols, the terms and their definitions. Review it daily.
5. Build good study habits. Assume that the teacher will give a "pop quiz" tomorrow on what you've studied today.
6. When doing your homework, keep it neat and organized. Use your homework to review for quizzes and tests. Correct your homework in class and then practice these problems. Remember, having a correct answer written on your homework paper isn't important -- knowing the correct procedure for obtaining the correct answer is important.
7. Read your math book slowly and often more than once. Study and practice the examples in the chapter before attempting the homework.
8. Prepare yourself for tests by saving copies of quizzes, and asking questions in and out of class.
9. Don't get upset, and don't give up if you do not understand every part of the teacher's classroom presentation. Take notes and try using them to solve homework problems. Use your textbook; it is a valuable source of information.
10. Teachers expect students to ask questions. Don't be afraid to ask questions and if necessary, make an appointment to meet with your teacher. But don't wait until the last minute to seek assistance. Remember, your teacher wants you to learn and to succeed and expects an honest effort from you.

These suggestions are offered with the hope that when followed, your future experiences in mathematics will be rewarding and enjoyable.

Reference: Margenau, James, and Sentiowitz, Michael
How To Study Mathematics
NCTM Publication 1977