



PERRY HIGH SCHOOL

PRIDE ♦ PROGRESS ♦ PURPOSE

Dear Parents of Perry's Best and Brightest,

My name is Keith Castillo and I am one of the honors math teachers at Perry High School. Your child's Algebra 1 teacher has recommended your child as one who may be successful in a class that I will be teaching next year called "Honors Block."

I would like to provide you with some information about the Honors Block class. The most basic explanation of the class is: two years of math structured into one school year. The Honors Block class consists of Honors Geometry first semester and Honors Algebra 2 second semester. In order to cover this much material so quickly, students will have two hours of math each day. Second and third period each day would be spent with me. While rewarding, your student would sacrifice one of his/her electives next year and essentially take another math class as his/her elective.

The purpose of the course is to move students, who excelled in Algebra 1, into the honors track of math courses. By taking the block class and moving into the honors level math track, students, while still in high school, will have the opportunity to earn up to 17 college level credits via dual enrollment courses and AP exams their junior and senior years of high school. This represents more than a semester of completed college coursework before leaving high school.

Here are a few benefits of the class:

- Your child will earn two honors math credits in one year of school with the associated GPA bump
- Your child will be amongst other students who are similarly motivated
- More class time with a teacher means more time to ask questions, work on homework
- New material is covered every day, the class does not bog down, it's never stagnant
- The class is challenging and promotes student growth mathematically and academically
- Smaller class size

Here are a few of the new expectations:

- Due to the pace, students will have to commit to a larger volume of daily material
- If a student misses a lesson, students are expected to be more aggressive about making up missed assignments and material

If your child is interested in taking the course, please contact your child's counselor and enroll him/her in the class next year. Even if they are already done with enrollment, your child's counselor can help you change his/her schedule. If you have any questions, please contact me at 480-224-2907 or email me at castillo.keith@cusd80.com.

Sincerely,

Keith Castillo