

Teacher Promises and Student Expectations

I promise to:

- Establish clear learning targets
- Select challenging problems and tasks that teach you to think for yourself
- Encourage the use of different methods
- Encourage the use of multiple representations of ideas
- Engage students in meaningful discussions
- Ask questions that build on student thinking
- Allow appropriate wait time
- Build procedural fluency from conceptual understanding
- Give students enough time to struggle with a task and ask questions that help with their thinking without stepping in to do the work for them
- Help students realize that confusion and errors are a natural part of learning
- Praise students for their efforts in making sense of mathematical ideas and persevere in solving them

I expect you to:

- Understand what you are learning and why you are learning it
- Use learning targets to stay focused
- Keep track of your progress
- Make connections with prior learning
- Use multiple representations (equation, table, graph, etc) to demonstrate your understanding
- Talk about math by explaining your ideas and reasoning
- Be ready to clarify and elaborate on your thinking
- Think about your response – don't rush your thinking!
- Construct valid arguments and critique the reasoning of others
- Understand and explain the mathematical concepts behind the procedures you use
- Struggle with mathematics and know that breakthroughs often emerge from confusion and struggle
- Persevere in solving problems and know that it is ok to say "I don't know how to proceed from here" but it is never ok to give up
- Help your classmates without telling them the answer or exactly what to do to solve the problem
- Reveal your understanding in your written work and classroom discussions
- Reflect on mistakes to improve your understanding
- Monitor your progress in mastering the learning targets and identify which areas need to be improved