**Mrs. Fultz’s tips on how to support your Student in Math**

**(*even when you have no clue what they’re doing*)**

1. **Stay Positive!**

So often parents say to their kids “I was never very good at math either”. Implying that since they weren’t good at math of course they would never expect their kids to be good at math. This gives the students the feeling that it’s ok to be bad at math. In general, our society accepts that it is ok to be bad at math, but why? Is it ok to be bad at reading? We need to change our attitudes about math, we need to tell our kids that even if we were bad at math they can do better! They can learn math; they just need to try! Learning anything takes practice, patience, determination, and a positive mental attitude, we need remind our students of this when they are trying to learn math!

1. **Help with homework.**

You may say, “how am I going to help with homework when I don’t know how to do the work myself?” I actually don’t expect you to be able to give them the answers (nor would I want you to), instead remind them that homework is actually practice work. Its main purpose is for the student to practice what they’ve just learned so they become good at it. With this said, they probably have class notes that will help them so remind them of this. What if they forget their notes at school? Google it! You can find out how to do anything on google these days and you can usually even find a youtube video that would be helpful! So if you’ve tried all of these things and still can figure it out, what next? Tell them to just try something, if it’s wrong that’s ok! But remind him/her that it is important to ask about it when they get to class the next day, most likely if one person is stuck on a problem there are others stuck on the same problem.

Homework is about practice and practice is about making mistakes and then fixing those mistakes until you don’t make any more mistakes. So does the homework need to be perfect? NO! But I expect students to try every problem to the best of their ability. If it’s still wrong, that’s ok, I will help them understand their mistake in class the next day but they need to make the mistake for me to be able to clear up their misunderstanding, this is where true learning takes place!

1. **Ask him/her to teach you something new!**

When teaching someone how to do something the person doing the teaching gains a better understanding of it themselves. We do some really interesting and cool things in Geometry, not only would you learn something new but it would help your student to reinforce what they’ve learned!

1. **Keep informed.**

There are a lot of ways that you can stay on top of what’s happening in class.

* Check out my website. Here you will find useful links, class notes and homework assignments. Also, if you open the unit notes links you’ll see when text and quizzes are scheduled for!
* Don’t have time for that? Sign up for Remind101 texts from me! I send out reminders about tests and quizzes and other things happening in class!

To sign up you send a text **to 81010** with the message **@gimatree**, that’s it!

* Email me! I promise to respond! [mfultz@lakeshorecsd.org](mailto:mfultz@lakeshorecsd.org)
* Call me! 549-2300 ext. 2133