AP Calculus AB Application

The Advanced Placement (AP) Program in Calculus AB offers students the opportunity to take a rigorous college-level course while still in high school. **AP Calculus AB is a critical course for many STEM, business, and medical majors**, as it provides the foundational skills necessary for success in higher education and beyond.

Given the course's demands, students must commit to its expectations. Please carefully review the information below. Both the student and parent/guardian must sign this application to confirm their understanding and dedication. Applications are due by **March 7, 2025**.

Course Expectations

1. Homework, Pace, and Grading:

- **Pacing:** The College Board sets a nationally standardized curriculum for AP Calculus AB, ensuring all courses meet college-level standards. As such, the course will follow a **rigorous and fast-paced schedule**.
- **Homework Commitment:** Students should expect to complete an average of **45 minutes of homework per night.**
- **Class Attendance:** Attendance is vital, as concepts build progressively.
- **Balancing Commitments:** Students heavily involved in extracurricular activities or part-time jobs may find it challenging to stay on top of the workload. Consider the difficulty of other courses before enrolling.
- **Timely Completion:** Homework must be completed the day it is assigned. Questions can be addressed briefly at the start of class; for more extensive help, students should schedule additional time with me.
- **Quizzes:** Quizzes will be given frequently to assess problem-solving, definitions, and conceptual understanding. These will be announced in advance.
- **Tests:** Tests will be administered at the end of each chapter and will often require **two class periods** to complete, with **Non-Calculator** and **Calculator Sections**. These assessments will challenge students to apply their knowledge and problem-solving skills.

2. The AP Exam:

- **Mandatory Exam:** All students enrolled in the course are required to take the AP Calculus AB exam in early May.
- **Comprehensive Content:** The exam requires a strong grasp of Calculus concepts, techniques, and applications to real-world problems.
- **Preparation:** Students must memorize and understand all techniques, formulas, and rules, as no formula sheet is provided on the AP exam.
- Success on the exam can earn students **4 college credit hours**, making this a valuable step toward their academic and career goals.

3. Calculators:

- Students must have a **TI-83** or higher graphing calculator, as many problems in homework, tests, and the AP exam require its use.
- I will use a **TI-84 Plus C Silver Edition** for instruction.
- **TI-nspire calculators** are also acceptable, but students will need to learn some functions independently.
- Students are expected to be proficient with their calculators at the start of the course. Additional Calculus-related calculator methods will be taught throughout the year.

4. Summer Assignment:

- Students must complete a **Calculus reflection project** as an introduction to the course.
- The project includes writing reflections on **two introductory chapters** to Calculus. Each reflection must be one page (12-point Times New Roman font, 1.5 spacing).
- Detailed guidelines will be provided once the application is approved.

Acknowledgment and Commitment

By signing below, the student and parent/guardian confirm their understanding of the expectations and their commitment to the effort required for success in AP Calculus AB.

Student Name (Print): _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Additional Information:

- **Concurrent Enrollment:** Please list any other AP or Dual Enrollment (DE) courses you will be taking:

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