

# School Year 2020-2021



**Mrs. Sarah S. Pletcher**

High School Math Teacher  
Jr./Sr. High Gifted Coordinator  
8th grade advisor

"The secret of  
**CHANGE**  
is to focus all of  
your energy not on  
fighting the old, but  
on building the new."

-SOCRATES

# Biography Information

## Education:

- Berlin Brothersvalley High School Graduate
- Undergraduate from University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown with B.S. in Mathematics Secondary Education & Computer Science
- Master's Equivalent Credits from Frostburg State University & University of Phoenix
- Various other trainings

## Teaching:

- 10 yrs at Northern Garrett Maryland
- 17 yrs at Rockwood

## Family:

Russ (husband: home improvement contractor)

Rhett (Mount Aloysius College: sophomore/soccer),

Jack (RAHS: junior/soccer/baseball),

2 English Setter bird dogs (Jim/Ellie),  
& 1 adopted stray cat (Deigo)



# My Schedule: [spletcher@rockwoodschoools.org](mailto:spletcher@rockwoodschoools.org) or 814.926.4631 ext. 2112

leave a voicemail as recorded into email and notifies my private cellphone

(7:45) 8:05 ...Period 1... 8:47	Room 112	Geometry
8:50 ...Period 2... 9:30	LIBRARY room	CP Geometry
9:33 ...Period 3... 10:13		<a href="#">Gifted Support Services</a>
10:16 .Period 4... 10:56	Room 112	Statistics
10:59 .Period 5... 11:39	Room 121	<a href="#">ROC/RAP</a>
11:39 .Period 6... 12:52	Room 112 11:39-12:09 Lunch 12:09-12:52 Class	Geometry
12:55 .Period 7... 1:35		<a href="#">Prep/Tutoring</a>
1:38 ...Period 8... 2:18 (2:16)	Room 112	STEPSS
2:21 ...Period 9... 2:51 (3:15)	Day A: Room 112 Tutoring Homeroom (8th graders)	Day B: Room 112 Enrichment /Tutoring

# Expectations for all classes

1. Attendance/Seating - be in seat, supplies out including homework, dismissal by teacher as varying times
2. **Chromebooks** --- HAVE charged and ready to go
3. Join & Be involved in our **Google Classrooms**: *guardians can be assigned just email me*
  - a. Answer Daily “check in” Question, classroom contains weekly lesson overviews that are updated with notes throughout week, assignments are scheduled here, some must be turned in within classroom.
4. Assign Hardcover textbooks (Geometry, CP Geometry, Statistics)
  - a. Geometry Classes- join online class at bigideasmath.com & download app for book offline
  - b. Statistics -- Calculator and google tools such as “sheets” will be used regularly
  - c. STEPSS -- No textbook but a folder to keep ongoing handouts in
5. Review Rules and Syllabus in Google Classroom
  - a. Hygiene and Social Distancing is the utmost objective of the year
  - b. Communication through Google Classroom and/or email

## CLASSROOM GUIDELINES/RULES

### **BE READY always**

- HAVE the ATTITUDE to LEARN
- Have Supplies: assignments, planner, student journal, writing utensils, **chromebooks** etc.  
WITH you & OUT - No purses or book bags on the DESKTOP.
- Bell Rings as SIGNAL to start and to end **BUT** the Teacher is the ULTIMATE decider
- Personal Issues: Makeup , Bathroom breaks, Permission to be absent, etc. are handled outside the “class”time
- Late work may be accepted w/penalties – conference w/teacher \*\*\*Discuss “Blue” forms

### **BE RESPONSIBLE always**

- Know the rules even school rules -- ie. NO cellphones on/out
- “Learning” is your responsibility – consult your teacher if you need help.
- Your grade is your work **not others** - a minimum of ZEROS for cheating
- Work is due when it is DUE. For emergencies, conference with teacher ASAP.
- Planners are used for passes in and out of class. Take bathroom breaks between classes. If concerned, check in with teacher first.
- If going to be absent, see teacher outside of classtime to get work. Can use online materials
- Unexcused absences are ZEROS for work.
- Get help as soon as possible (mostly 9th period, but ask about additional times)

### **BE RESPECTFUL always to yourself, teachers, and others**

- Ask – don’t demand or assume
- Please wear masks and/or social distance
- No profanity, No Bullying
- No disruptions – no walking around, having makeup out, talking out of turn
- Keep room clean – do not make the janitor do extra work

## Grading System

### Term Grades: Total points

A – 90 to 100 Excellent

B – 80 to 89 Good

C – 70 to 79 Average

D – 65 to 69 Poor

F – 64 & Below Failing

Extra Credit: Extra credit/bonus points may be provided throughout the quarter by test questions. You can receive 1 bonus point per period for tutoring or in class assisting others by Mrs. Pletcher discretion (maximum of 10 bonus points per nine weeks)

Grades will be determined from chapter or unit tests, quizzes, classwork/homework, and participation through daily online questions with fully charged chromebooks and class discussions.

### Course Grades: .

Sum of the following weighted grades

- Quarter 1 \* 20%
- Quarter 2 \* 20%
- Midterm Exam \* 10%
- Quarter 3 \* 20%
- Quarter 4 \* 20%
- Final Exam \* 10 %

Midterms and Final exams cover the semester concepts. Each class will be allowed some notes on these tests.

# Geometry: Basic & College Prep (CP) level

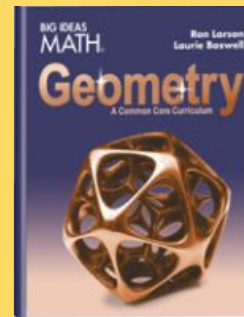
**INTRODUCTION:** This is a yearlong course. It is a graduation requirement. You will learn definitions, principals or theorems of geometric items, and formulas in algebraic equations and in real-life applications (aka word problems). A course overview with main objectives fits the school aligned with the PA Core Standards for PRACTICES and Geometry CONTENT. Currently there is NO required STATE test for Geometry but this course is also aligned with the PA Keystone Geometry Exam. This course will cover almost every section of the book, excluding most of Chapter 2 & 12 unless time is available.

**BOOK:** Big Ideas: *Geometry*: Common Core Edition 2015

*There is also a paper copy “**Student Journal**” book is **expected** to be written in.*

**ONLINE** [www.bigideasmath.com](http://www.bigideasmath.com) student account for assignments from textbook as well

ALSO ---see Code on **Google Classroom** where additional assignments are listed.

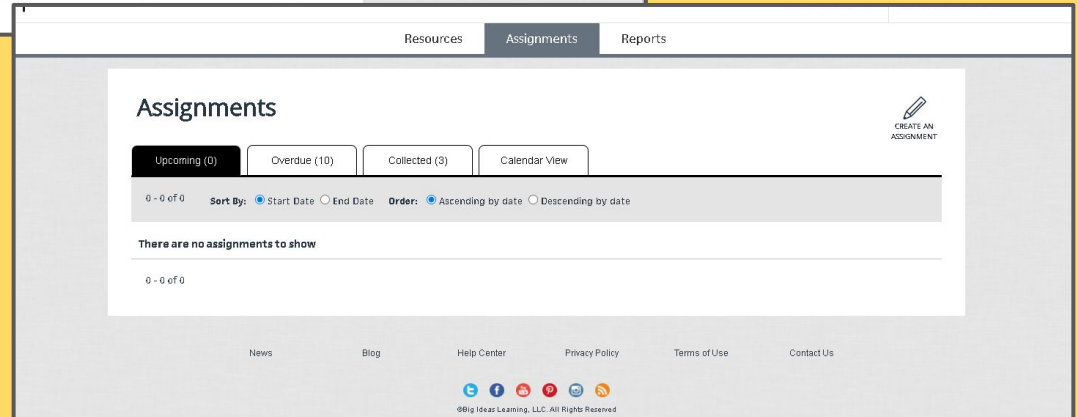
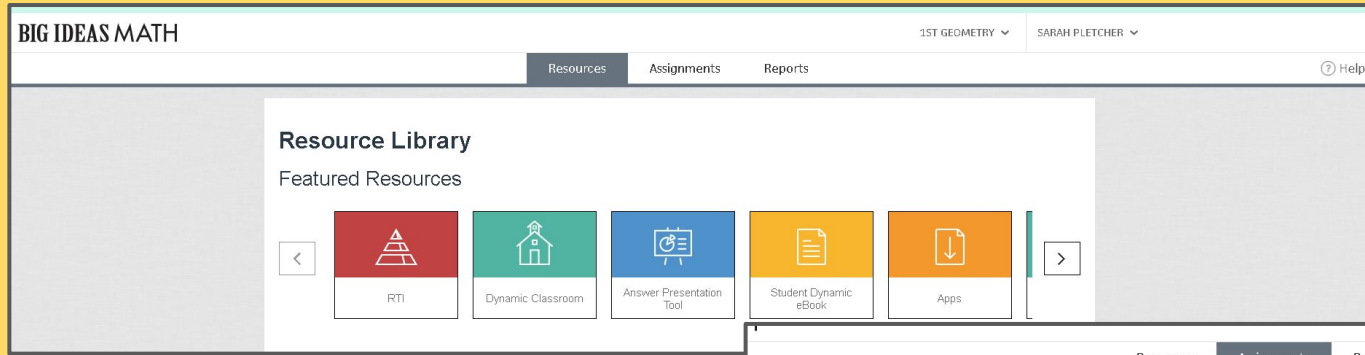


- SUPPLIES:**
- 1) One three ringed, loose-leaf BINDER to keep student journal in as well as handouts and additional notes
  - 2) scientific calculator (school can supply if necessary), and
  - 3) writing utensils such as highlighter, pen, and pencil.

OTHER useful items: one spiral notebook & grid paper, ruler, protractor, compass (school will provide as needed also)

[www.bigideasmath.com](http://www.bigideasmath.com)

Website has many resources besides assignments such as links to videos





# Sample Lesson Schedule

1) **Google Classroom** - log in and answer the question of the day

This may be a homework question, previous lecture question, or introduction question.

2) **Homework check and review**

This may be reviewed by teacher prior online completion so those missed problems can be discussed. Also student can submit paper copies of assignments. Modifications for paper copy frequently will be do only the even numbered problems.

3) **Lesson --**

Use paper Student Journal (SJ) to guide lecture

with the exploration section, definition section, add examples to the ones in student journal from textbook, and/or do the practice section

4) **Classwork into Homework Practice Problems:**

The assigned problems are typically from the hardcover textbook problems regenerated through the [www.bigideasmath.com](http://www.bigideasmath.com) assignments.

The advantage of doing it online is the problems are formatted as multiple choice, matching, or fill in. It will also be given the ability to check answers, logs answers & time spent, and an opportunity for unsubmitting work in cases where additional work is necessary for an individual. Students are able NOT to do it online and therefore complete it on paper from the textbook and submit to teacher the next day.

5) **Assessment** in the form a test is usually every chapter. Quizzes and midchapter tests may also be conducted.

# Additional information

Geometry (Basic):      Period 1 & 6

As these students are more likely to be directly entering the workforce, the expectations are to apply concepts. Online assignments in bigideasmath need to be completed on time at a minimum of 70% or better to receive 5/5.

Additional drill worksheets as well as modeling projects may be given. Topics may be extended over longer periods of time with more drawings. State based formula sheets will be allowed as well as calculators on tests. They will be permitted to use notes such as student journal on tests.

Geometry CP:              Period 2

As these students are “preparing” for college level courses, the expectations are higher. They will cover material at a little faster pace with more algebraic applications. Additional topics on logic, formal proofs, and memorization of formulas will be covered. Online assignments in bigideasmath need to be completed on time at a minimum of 80% or better to receive 5/5. No notes will be used on test with the exception of summary notes on midterms and final exams. State based formula sheets will be allowed as well as calculators. Testing time will be limited.

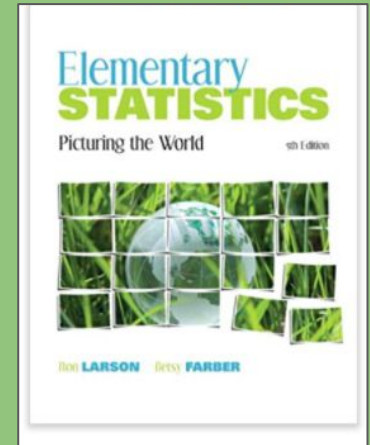
# Statistics:

# Period 4

**Introduction:** This year long course will focus on the collection, organization, and interpretation of data. Concepts such as designing studies, graphing histograms and box-whisker plots, using the normal curve for z scores to compare populations, constructing confidence intervals, and performing statistical significance testing.

**Book:** Elementary Statistics-Picturing the World

**Supplies:** 3 ring Binder/folder to keep handouts and exercises  
Graphing Statistical Calculator (school can provide)



# STEPSS: Strategic Thinking & Effective Practices for Student Success

Period 8

## Introduction:

This 7th grade expo is a 9-weeks course that focuses on a variety of skills. Students get oriented to Rockwood's webpage, handbook, and grading policies. Study, organization, note-taking, and time management skills are explored. Students also get lessons on PSSA geometry concepts and use google tools such as "keep". There is no formal textbook but the website [www.middleschoolguide](http://www.middleschoolguide) is used for podcasts. A folder to organize handouts presented throughout the course is to be maintained and used on assessments.