

## *Guidelines for Homework Assignments*

These guidelines are not merely picky standards that teachers have! From our experience, we know that following these guidelines will allow you to get the most from your assignments. Your work will be more organized and readable. You'll be able to practice the attention to detail and depth that we require on tests. Finally, you'll be interacting with problems more deeply.

- Assignment Section and Date should head *every* assignment.
  - Each problem includes a problem number.
  - Each problem includes a statement of the original question (this can be in brief or abbreviated form)
  - Write down what you KNOW - in words, equations or pictures.
  - State what you NEED - what's the goal?
  - In clear logical steps, answer the question completely. If it asks for an explanation, give an explanation!
  - Paths to correct answers are ALWAYS expected.
  - Variables should ALWAYS be defined (via words or a clear picture).
  - Final answers should ALWAYS be in context of the question. Give units, translate equations back into English, etc....
  - Check your answers. Are you showing a clear path? Check the *path to your solution* with the answer key at school or with hotmath.com. Do you show sufficient detail?
  - When you are stuck on a problem, you should STILL include –
    - What's given in the problem. (via words, equation or diagram)
    - The goal of the problem
    - An attempt, a SPECIFIC reason why you are stuck. "I don't know where to go from here" is not a specific reason. Point to the confusing phrase or task.
- In other words, a blank response is *never* appropriate.**