**Course Goal:** Our goal is to take the boards on May 16, 2012! This class, the things we do, and the way we do them are meant to prepare you for the AP Statistics Exam. You will hear about the boards everyday so get used to it!

**TEXTBOOK:**  There is no book for this class. Now that you are finished jumping for joy at not having to carry a heavy book, here’s what this will mean. We will suffer from paper overload this year! You need to have a three-ring binder devoted solely to this class. YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR LEARNING THE MATERIAL- WE DON’T HAVE A BOOK IS NOT AN EXCUSE! I will have some links posted on my website where you can find information about the topics we are studying; google the topic if you need more help; there are several texts in my room that can be used to look a topic and read about it. Staying organized and holding on to the information handed out in class and taught in class will be a necessity. The course will be organized into units based on the AP Curriculum and the text that has been approved.

**HOMEWORK:** Yes, you will have homework (groan); even if there is not a written assignment time should be spent reviewing vocabulary or concepts daily. Homework may or may not be graded. Stats is VERY different from Algebra. There may only be one problem with 2 or 3 parts as your homework. The numerical answer may not be the most important part of the answer. The reasoning and justification is usually more important and that is what we will focus on in this class.

**WRITING:** There will be lots of writing in this course. (yes, I know this is not English class, too bad, so sad) The calculations in this course are important but the most of important use of statistics is to make informed decisions. The justifications you give will be a bigger portion of the “grade” than the actual numbers you calculate. The AP Exam also will emphasize your reasoning skills. My expectations for acceptable writing are:

1. Writing in COMPLETE sentences all the time (If you are unsure of what a COMPLETE sentence looks like, see your English teacher.)
2. Use pencil or here’s a novel idea, type it!
3. Check your spelling, punctuation, and grammar(hint: the computer will do this for you!)
4. If you are writing, use lined paper.

Most of the time a simple yes or no will not justify an answer to a question. More details are needed if you want full credit. The writing portion is something we will focus on in class and hopefully improve over the course of the year!

**QUIZZES:**  We will have several quizzes within each unit. Some will be announced ahead of time; others will not. Quizzes are 25 points each and pop quizzes are 10-15 points each. Quiz corrections will be due 3 days from the date they are returned. Failure to turn in corrections will result in a zero for quiz score.

**NOTEBOOKS:** As mentioned earlier, you must have a 3-ring binder with dividers for this class. This is a required part of your grade and will be graded at the end of marking period for 100 points. . You need to make-up any notes, activities, or warm-ups when you are absent. Be sure to hang on to all of the materials; they will be important when it comes time to preparing for the boards. Notebook logs must be completely filled out!

**TESTS:** Each unit will end with a 150-point test; the tests have two parts, a take-home and an in –class. Some of the questions will be from practice AP board exams. Some will be written by me. You will be allowed to use the AP Packet on any quiz or test you wish since you will have that available to you on the boards. If you are absent for a review day you will be expected to take the test on the scheduled day; this is reasonable since test dates will be announced well in advance! If you miss actual new material, we will decide together when you will be responsible for taking the test.

**TEST/QUIZ CORRECTIONS**: You are REQUIRED to correct all mistakes on every assessment. This means you have to explain why you got the problem wrong, how to fix it, and the correct answer. Corrections are due within one week of the test or 3 days of the quiz being returned to you. If you do not turn in the corrections, the score will be a zero. The goal of this requirement is to help you to learn from your mistakes and hopefully prevent the same mistakes in the future. You will earn back 10% of the total points available on the assessment if your corrections are done well.

**Projects:** This course will also focus on using statistics in practical situations. There will be several “mini” projects during the semester as well as some extended projects. Occasionally, you will work in groups. Since you will be expected to work together outside of class, you will be responsible for choosing your partners so that working outside of class will (hopefully) be easier for you! Projects will range from 35-75 points each.

**Grades:** Grades will be based on total points earned. I will keep grades as updated as possible; my goal is to have them posted at least once a week in the classroom; you may also check on the internet anytime. If you see a zero in your grade, it means that you did not have it done on time. Sometimes you will see a zero marked with the missing symbol, which means the work can be made up for full credit since you were absent or were granted extended time due to extenuating circumstances. If you are having problems completing an assignment, you need to communicate with me ASAP. Extenuating circumstances DO NOT include I forgot, I had to work, I didn’t have time, We had a game last night, I didn’t understand it, etc. Remember, this is an AP class and therefore the grades are weighted for your GPA. This means that you will have work for an A! The grading scale is the standard one used in the school; it is posted in the room. The semester’s work accounts for 80% of the final grade and the exam will be 20% of the final grade.

**Calculators:** A TI-83/84 will be an EXTREMELY useful tool. Everything we do can be done by hand but the calculator will be far more efficient. There will be calculators available for use during class and seminar, and before and after school. “I didn’t have a graphing calculator” is NOT acceptable as a reason for not doing work. If you are still looking for a calculator, I recommend checking out e-bay; you can often find some great deals on used calculators.

**Internet:** Since we have no book, I will often use web sites for sources. You will get the address so that you will have places to look for information. I also will be setting up my website with all of the information posted so if you need another copy of something you will be able to get it from home.

**Passes:** The restroom/locker pass is available for emergencies only. Passes are a privilege and those who abuse it will lose it! Abuse includes excessive use, gone too long, disrupting class, not signing in or out properly. The pass is not to be used during notes, quizzes, test, announcements, or channel 1. Be back in 5 minutes!

**Boards:** It is my hope that ALL of you will seriously consider and take the AP Exam in May for possible College credit. My goal is to have all of you prepared to earn at least a 3 on the exam. Be sure to check with your possible college choices to see what score you need to earn credit. The exams cost approximately $90 so plan ahead; I believe financial aid is available if you qualify. The deposit for the exams is due in early March.

**Absences/tardies:** You will have 2 school days for each absence to make up any missing work. Be sure to stay on top of things…we will move at a rather fast pace and falling behind is not a good thing! Assignment calendars are handed out at the beginning of each unit. They are also posted in the room and on my website. Being absent, especially for a school function, is NOT an excuse for not turning things in on time!

**Cheating: JUST DON’T DO IT!** Cheating is not an acceptable manner of completing your work. Cheating includes copying homework or assignments, talking with your neighbor during tests, etc. Cheating is a serious offense and will be dealt with accordingly including losing credit on the assignment in question.

Student Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please sign below to indicate that you have received and read the overview for Advance Placement Statistics and return by September 9, 2011.

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Student Signature Parent Signature

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Daytime Phone Number Evening Phone Number

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Parents e-mail

Best time to reach parents:

Questions, Comments or other concerns: