



## Tallahassee Classical School

### Mathematics Grade 8 Prealgebra 2024-2025

#### **Teacher:**

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Tallahassee Classical School's curriculum is centered around three stages:

1. **The Grammar Stage** (K-5), where scholars learn vocabulary, or building blocks, to build upon for their remaining education. In this stage, TCS uses the following curriculum: Literacy Essentials, a variety of classical works of literature and poetry, Well-Ordered Language, Institute for Excellence in Writing, Dimensions Math, Core Knowledge History and Science, and English from the Roots Up.
2. **The Logic Stage** (6-8), where scholars use dialogue to understand, sort, and compare the vocabulary they learned in the Grammar Stage. In the Logic Stage, TCS uses the following curriculum: A variety of classical works of literature and poetry, Well Ordered Language, Lost Tools of Writing, Reveal Math, Land of Hope and Core Knowledge History, and Wheelock's Latin.
3. **The Rhetoric Stage** (9-12), where scholars use their grammar and logic knowledge to solve problems and research all sides of an argument, creating true philosophers who contribute virtuously to the world around them. In this stage, TCS uses the following curriculum: a variety of classical works of literature, poetry, philosophy, history and economics, Traditional Logic, Aristotle's Logic, Dave Ramsey's Personal Financial Literacy, Reveal Math, Florida Standard Aligned Science, And Wheelock's Latin.

### About the Curriculum at Tallahassee Classical:

Tallahassee Classical School aims to educate scholars to be lifelong learners, seeking truth, goodness, and beauty in the world around them. Therefore, TCS offers a content-rich curriculum with a focus on math, science, literature, history and Latin, incorporating the love of music, art, and physical education. When a scholar attends and engages at TCS for their entire educational career, they will learn not only facts, vocabulary, and literacy, but how to integrate this knowledge in order to communicate effectively and clearly, and to develop high-level skills in logic and argumentation.

**Course Overview:** (1) representing numbers in scientific notation and extending the set of numbers to the system of real numbers, which includes irrational numbers; (2) generate equivalent numeric and algebraic expressions including using the Laws of Exponents; (3) creating and reasoning about linear relationships including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation; (4) solving linear equations, inequalities and systems of linear equations; (5) developing an understanding of the concept of a function and (6) analyzing two-dimensional figures, particularly triangles, using distance, angle and applying the Pythagorean Theorem.

A detailed list of standards can be found by searching: FL DOE BEST Standards

### **Course Materials:**

All scholars will have a composition notebook or planner for keeping track of daily assignments and quizzes and tests. The composition notebook or planner needs to be purchased by the scholar's family.

1. Scholars should have a 3 ring binder with lined paper that is dedicated to their math class. This is generally kept in the room.
2. The following are FDOE-approved scientific calculators for the 2024-2025 school year: • Texas Instruments TI-30Xa • Casio fx-260 solar • Casio fx-82 solar • Sharp EL-510R • Sharp EL-510RN (The TI is readily available and is what the school provides during testing.)
3. Pencils and erasers are essential.

### **Grading Policy:**

Grading is a measurement of progress. TCS will assign grades in order to accurately reflect the range between true mastery and non-mastery of a subject. Grade inflation is not practiced at TCS. Parents, guardians and

scholars should be regularly informed of the scholar's progress by accessing the FOCUS parent portal to see their child's grades. The letter and numerical grades for this system are listed below:

#### Grading Scale Logic and Rhetoric GPA points

|   |         |               |     |
|---|---------|---------------|-----|
| A | 90-100% | Excellence    | 4.0 |
| B | 80-89   | Above Average | 3.0 |
| C | 70-79   | Average       | 2.0 |
| D | 60-69   | Below Average | 1.0 |
| F | 0-59    | Failing       | 0.0 |

Scholars' grades will be calculated based on the following makeup:  
Classwork/Homework: 20%; Quizzes: 30%; Tests: 50%

#### Grading Policy

- Grades are not 'curved,' as it defeats the purpose of assessment - to measure/demonstrate the knowledge of the scholars.
- Test retakes are permitted in extraordinary circumstances at the discretion of the teacher or administrator ➤ Scholars must make up work and assessments in a timely manner. A scholar may have one day for each day that they had an excused absence to make up assignments. After that, 10 points will be deducted per day from missing assignments, and after five days, it will be marked as a zero in the gradebook. In exceptional circumstances, a scholar may be excused from various assignments or assessments, per teacher discretion.
- Cheating will not be tolerated by any teacher in any subject. Cheating occurs when a scholar uses someone else's work or a prohibited source of information to gain an unfair advantage on a test or an assignment. Cheating comes in many forms such as one scholar copying off another, a scholar using a "cheat sheet" to answer questions on a test, or a scholar trying to pass off another scholar's work as his own are a few common examples of cheating.

A scholar who knowingly allows others to copy his work will also be considered cheating.

**Scholars will keep a copy of this syllabus in their take-home binder for parent and scholar reference.**