

Dear Parents,

As we plan for another year of school and make preparations for new classes, one consideration is the purchase of school supplies. Technology has become an integral part of our lives and in the technical subjects, it has become indispensable. We will be using technology extensively in mathematics and science classes.

One of the tools that individual students must master is the use of a calculator. This will enable students to visualize functions and make inferences about mathematical data. Using a calculator is a skill, which should be practiced often to make maximum use of the technology. For this reason, we strongly recommend that students purchase their own calculators. This will enable them to use the same calculator for all four years of high school, and it can be taken to college as well.

The mathematics department recommends the purchase of a basic 4-function calculator for 6th and 7th graders and the TI-Nspire for use in all high school mathematics courses (this includes 7th & 8th grade Algebra I & Geometry). The TI-Nspire handheld comes with an interchangeable TI-84 Plus keypad that will allow your child to use the calculator in any math class and computer software for your child to use at home. The non-CAS version of the calculator is approved for use on standardized tests including, PARCC, SAT, and AP exams.

If you want more information about this calculator, you can visit www.ti-nspire.com.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 201-670-2800 ext. 20506 or at gmcdonald@ridgewood.k12.nj.us.

Sincerely,
Greg McDonald
Supervisor of Mathematics and Technology
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