

Dear Parent or Guardian,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as your child’s mathematics teacher for the upcoming school year. My name is Mr. Austin Tolan and this will be my tenth year of teaching at Northern Middle School. I graduated from Shippensburg University in May 2010 with a bachelor’s degree in mathematics education and earned my master’s degree in curriculum and instruction in December of 2014. I am very passionate about teaching and I could not have asked for a better district to be a part of. The administrators, faculty and staff here are very supportive and they really care about their students.

Please take a minute to review the course syllabus with your child and complete the last page so it can be returned to me. I have very high expectations for all of my students and I would expect you to have even higher expectations for me. I have a very strong work ethic and I stress that in my classroom. It is my goal to help your student to have a better understanding of the material by relating the mathematics to the world around us. Showing the students the usefulness of the material that they are learning and how it can be applied to the outside world is the key to student success in mathematics.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any concerns or comments throughout the course of the school year. Education is a life-long process and also a process that is successful because of open communication between the parent/guardian, student, and the teacher. I can most easily be reached through the school email at atolan@northernyork.org or by calling the school and asking for my voice mailbox. I have asked for your phone number and email address as well, along with the most convenient way to contact you. Please feel free to contact me at any time with any questions, concerns, or comments you may have. Let’s work together to give your student the best education we can!

Mr. Austin J. Tolan

Mathematics Department Northern Middle School

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