

1/18/13

Dear Parents,

My name is Mr. Mitchell Burdick and I am a student at Grand Valley State University. I will be assisting and teaching your student in Mr. Dodge's 9<sup>th</sup> grade Algebra class over the next 15 weeks. My areas of study are Mathematics (major) and Biology (minor) with an emphasis in Secondary Education. During this semester, I am completing my Teacher Assisting requirement for Grand Valley State University for the College of Education program. I will be heavily involved with your children learning over the next 15 week. I will be taking over Mr. Dodge's Mathematics classes during both 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> period starting Monday (02/24/13).

During the quadratics unit, the students will learn how to solve for the solutions of quadratics through various methods: factoring- box method, diamond method, double distributive property, using tables and graphs, using the zero product property, solving algebraically, and using the quadratic formula. Also, we will use these methods to solve real world problems to find the exact solutions, like in the vertical motion model. The following are the learning targets for the unit:

LT	Learning Target
6.1	I can find a solution(s) to a quadratic function from a graph and a table.
6.2	I can find a solution(s) to a quadratic function using the zero product property.
6.3	I can write and evaluate a quadratic function using the Vertical Motion Model.
6.4	I can factor a quadratic function with a coefficient of 1.
6.5	I can factor quadratics by recognizing special cases (difference of squares & perfect squares).
6.6	I can find a solution(s) to a quadratic function using the quadratic formula.

The students will be assessed on the individual leaning targets. If the student doesn't perform well on one of the learning targets, the student can come in after school to re-learn the concepts then take a quiz the next time they come in. Also, the students' performance on the final exam will replace the quiz grades for each learning target. This gives the students an opportunity to demonstrate their understanding and academic performance for each of the learning targets.

If any questions arise, please feel free to contact myself at [burdicmi@mail.gvsu.edu](mailto:burdicmi@mail.gvsu.edu) or contact Mr. Dodge.

Thanks for taking the time to read this letter. I hope you students are excited to have me as a teacher assistant in their classroom. I am excited to be working with your child as well as having Mr. Dodge guiding me every step of the way during my teacher assisting. I will see you at parent teacher conference in 5 weeks.

Sincerely,

Mr. Mitchell Burdick

Teacher Assistant  
Grand Valley State University