



# Newton North High School

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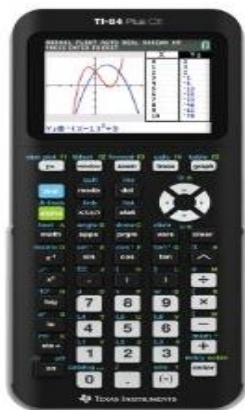
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There are many innovations in the use of technology in mathematics education. At Newton North High School (NNHS) one of the tools we use in all courses is a calculator. Students are expected to bring a calculator to class as part of their materials and should arrange to do so within the first week of school.

We appreciate a calculator is a big purchase for families. This is a tool used more and more in our classrooms as we emphasize the visual aspects of mathematics. A graphing calculator is also a tool often used in math courses at college/university (especially Calculus and Statistics); we want to do our best to prepare students for this experience. Calculators are also required for most science and engineering classes at NNHS. A graphing calculator has all the functions of a scientific calculator and more. Students may use either a scientific or graphing calculator in their science class.

While many teachers use online resources and other devices in the classroom (such as Chromebooks), these devices are connected to the Internet and are not a feasible tool in all situations. Teachers do not allow students to use their cell phones as calculators in class, especially in testing situations.

Some important information regarding calculators:



- Our calculator of choice, and the one teachers use for demonstration and instruction, is the **TI-84 Plus CE**. This calculator is thinner and lighter than previous models, has a color screen and a rechargeable battery. (TI-84 Plus, TI-84 Plus Silver Edition and TI-84 Plus C Silver Edition are acceptable as well. These are able to do all the functions of a TI-84 Plus CE.)
- There are many ways to purchase calculators at a discount. You may find used calculators or calculators on sale on the Internet (e.g. Ebay, Amazon), starting now and through the summer.
- We strongly recommend students label their calculator and cover so that if a calculator is lost/found, we can assist in returning it to your student.

We have some calculators available to be borrowed for the year for students eligible for financial assistance. Students are eligible for financial assistance if they receive free or reduced lunch. If families have questions about applying for free or reduced lunch, please contact your dean or counselor.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with additional questions.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Letourneau