



Ms. Gentry



Welcome to another great year at BCHS! This is my 17th year teaching mathematics at BCHS. I am also the advisor for our Academic Olympics program, a member of our Tier 2 team, and a lunchtime tutor. My class schedule this year includes four sections of Geometry, one section of Pre-Algebra and one section of Algebra II.

I earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Montana Western – double majoring in math and physical science secondary education. My student teaching was done at the Dillon Junior High (it wasn't a middle school way back then)! I raised my 3 kids, substitute taught and worked at the elementary school before starting my career at BCHS. I love Dillon and am so thankful to teach in this community.

As far as my teaching philosophy, I believe 'The greatest gift you can give someone is not only to share your own talents, but to help them discover their own'. Students are unique and have different talents and learning styles. My teaching style thus includes a variety of techniques designed to reach each student. Explanation, demonstration, practice, hands-on experience and application are all necessary components. While Mathematics may have a lot of set answers, there may be many ways to get to those final answers. Helping students think through and problem solve with a variety of approaches is vital. Learning to approach each problem from the "Tri-Angle" may sound corny, but it means not just memorizing formulas, theorems, etc. without understanding the concepts and reasoning behind them. As far as the question "When am I ever going to use this?" – I believe that there will always be problems that one must face and solve in life, so becoming an effective problem solver and learning 'how to learn' so one can find and apply solutions are key answers to that question. I also believe in having fun with math – incorporating games, challenges, puzzles, etc. This approach can bring enjoyment and practice at the same time. I believe tests are meant to be teaching tools – I want students to look at them positively as an opportunity to share what they learn and to find where they may need some further understanding.

I am available most lunch hours, before school, and after school, for students desiring extra help in math. Please call me at 406-925-5136 ext. 19 or email me @ jgentry@bchsmt.com if you have any questions or concerns during the year.

Janet Gentry

BCHS Mathematics