



Dear AP Computer Science Principles Parent or Guardian,

I would like to welcome your student to AP Computer Science Principles. I am excited about this upcoming year and our journey through AP Computer Science Principles together.

During the first six weeks of AP Computer Science Principles, we will be covering digital information, the Internet, and an introduction to app design. Your student will be expected to demonstrate an understanding of how data is stored and explain methods of compression. Your student will be expected to describe abstraction and provide examples of how abstraction is useful in working with data. Your student will be expected to explain how information is transferred on the Internet, protocols used and what measures are in place to limit errors. Your student will be expected to identify and explain differences in application input and output. Students will also be expected to explain intellectual property, the digital divide, and ethical concerns around computing.

These units will lay the foundation for the entire year in AP Computer Science Principles, and it is essential for your student's success in this course to have a firm foundation in programming fundamentals. You can expect that your student will have homework on a nightly basis. Please encourage your student to attend tutorials so that your student can find success in AP Computer Science A. Your student should be reviewing new material every evening and completing online labs and reflections well before the eve of the test. Students will be given adequate notice about tests dates. I have posted these dates in Canvas, which is the online course management website for students. In addition, students will be accessing lessons and study materials through the Code.org website.

I have several goals for the students in AP Computer Science Principles: (1) take and pass the AP Computer Science Principles exam, (2) develop computational thinking skills, (3) design their own algorithms and (4) solve real-life problems. I would encourage your student to take the AP Computer Science Principles Exam administered during the first two full weeks of May 2022. We will be building toward this goal during this year and your students should plan on taking this exam. The expectation I have for your student is to take the AP exam in May.

I would appreciate your help in furthering these goals. Please contact me at any time. You may send an e-mail, phone, or schedule a time for a conference. Please read over the course syllabus with your student as it may answer many questions. I look forward to working with you and your student to make this a great year!

Sincerely,

Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ISD AP Computer Science Principles Teachers