

# Sant Bani School

## Texas Instruments Graphing Calculator Requirement For Grade 8

Calculator activities are an important part of math classes at Sant Bani School. To enable full participation, students in Grade 8 are required to have a Texas Instruments TI-83 or TI-84 (“Plus” versions are also acceptable) or TI-Nspire calculator with working batteries.

*Some high schools require a particular calculator, almost always either the TI-84 or TI-Nspire. It would be worth checking your child’s intended high school for their requirement, to minimize the likelihood of having to buy a second new calculator. If you end up needing to, however, consider selling the unneeded one back to a rising 8th grader for next fall.*

These calculators are fairly expensive, but they will be used throughout the high school and college years. They are often on sale in late summer, and it is sometimes possible to find cheaper used or refurbished ones online. **Students’ calculators should be clearly marked for identification – they all look alike!**

**Why do we need this if we have a laptop?** Primarily because students are allowed to bring a graphing calculator for use during many standardized tests, including SAT and AP tests, but they are not allowed to use a laptop. Familiarity with the calculator is a big advantage when you are testing.

**Why does it have to be a TI?** Each brand of calculator is different; learning how to make use of the capabilities takes time, experience and consultation of manuals. The TI line is very widely used in schools, and all in-class instruction and peer-to-peer assistance is geared to the TIs. It is likely that teachers would *not* be able to help a student learn a more complicated function on a calculator other than a TI.

Please sign and return this form to indicate that you are aware of this policy. ***Students who come to class without a calculator and are unable to participate in an activity will receive an academic alert.*** If you are unable to purchase a calculator for your child(ren) due to financial constraints, please contact eighth grade math teacher Kirsten Wilkinson, [kirsten@santbani.org](mailto:kirsten@santbani.org), and we will help you find one.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

for Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_