

Monday, August 17, 2020

Dear Project Make student:

Welcome! My name is Mr. Hays and I am looking forward to getting to know you and doing great things together this year in Project Make.

Here's a little bit about me:

- This is my 17<sup>th</sup> year teaching at Analy.
- I started at Analy teaching Math and I have taught all levels up through Trigonometry. Eight years ago I started teaching computer programming, and four years ago I started teaching Project Make. Nowadays I teach two programming classes (a beginning class and an AP class) and three Project Make classes.
- I have two sons who both went to Analy (classes of 2014 and 2016).
- In addition to my dog I have seven chickens. I designed and built an automatic chicken door using a robot arm to open and close the coop every day. ([There's a video of it on my web site.](#))
- Before I became a teacher I worked at a software company for 14 years. I started as employee number three and finished as engineering manager. I left that job in 2002 to become a teacher.
- I got my teaching credential at Sonoma State in 2003.
- I studied International Relations at UC Davis and earned a minor in Russian. Here's a phrase I would say out loud if we were having class in person: Я хочу купить 20 пончиков (Ask me what it means sometime, or translate it on the web, but for now, I'll leave it as a mystery :-)
- I play guitar and was the lead singer in a rock band for three years in college.



Let's talk about Project Make. Please take a few minutes to read the syllabus for our class. I posted it on the Google Classroom. I will use the Google Classroom as our home base. I also post resources and information on my web site: [www.dogatemyhomework.com](http://www.dogatemyhomework.com).

As long as we are doing full distance learning we will have Zoom classes twice a week. I will post the schedule clearly in our Google Classroom, including Zoom links.

Most weeks we will have three things you will need to turn in: one for each of our Zoom class days and one for Wednesday. Again, everything will clearly be posted on the Google Classroom.

To start us off this year, please go to the Google Classroom and do our first two assignments: the Welcome Email and the Tinkercad assignment. I think I have given you all that you need to know there, but if you have any questions, get stuck, or run into any problems please send me an email and I'll do what I can to help. We start our full synchronous classes the week of Monday 8/24.

I'm very much looking forward to seeing all the amazing things you will create and make this year.

Thanks for taking this class, let's have some fun!

Best regards,

*Mr. Hays*