

Math 8001: When Students Struggle

Today

Talking to a student who is struggling.

Identifying whether a student is struggling.
(More about grading schemes)

Remember: your students may not be following the same path as you.

Bad News

There are no definitive answers today, and not every situation can be salvaged.

The paradox

Fairness is paramount. At a large school, often

Fairness = Consistency = Strictness

And yet... is strictness really our goal?

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Good News

Sometimes—not always!—a student simply hasn't adjusted to college level mathematics courses. They need to learn how to “break through the wall.”

- How to study for exams.
- How (and when, and where) to do homework.
- How to overcome pride and ask for help.

Sometimes a simple step can help, such as a weekly email.

In the end...

Our students are independent adults. We can't force them to change behavior, but we can provide accurate information to help them make decisions.

What other problems are your students having?

Any (other) current issues in your own teaching?