## Honors Algebra II Notes Section 8.2 <br> Graph and Write Equations of Parabolas

Parabola: $\qquad$

Focus: a point that falls in the interior of the parabola and is the same distance from the parabola as the directrix.

Directrix: a line perpendicular to the axis of symmetry and equidistant to the vertex as the focus is to the vertex.

Vertex: lowest/highest point of a parabola; lies equidistant from the focus and directrix.


TYPES of
PARABOLAS




EXAMPLE $1 \quad G r a p h ~ x=-1 / 8 y^{2}$. Identify the focus, directrix, and axis of symmetry.


EXAMPLE 2 Write an equation of the parabola.
a)

b)


EXAMPLE 3 The Eurodish, developed to provide electricity in remote areas, uses a parabolic reflector to concentrate sunlight onto a high-efficiency engine located at the reflector's focus. The sunlight heats helium to $650^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to power the engine.
a) Write an equation for the Eurodish's cross section with its vertex at ( 0,0 ).
b) How deep is the dish?


