

Algebra

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Welcome to a new year. I hope to make your Algebra course a positive experience. As concepts are introduced, class work and homework will be assigned to aid in the reinforcement these concepts. I request that your best effort be made to complete each assignment, to ask questions when you are uncertain, and to be open to new ideas.

Objectives:

Algebra expands upon the student's knowledge of number the real number system and arithmetic operations. Simplifying expressions, solving equations and inequalities, and graphing functions are further developed and applied to practical situations. Understanding, writing, and solving linear equations will be tackled as well as factoring and graphing the quadratic equation. Students will learn to manipulate monomial and polynomial expression using basic operations.

Text:

California Math Algebra 1. Evanston, IL: McDougal Littell, 2008.

Additional Materials:

Students are required to have the following materials in class:

1. A pencil pouch containing: #2 pencils or mechanical pencil with lead, an eraser, a red pen (to correct homework), a ruler, a protractor, and a compass.
2. A scientific calculator
3. Graph paper ($\frac{1}{4}$ -inch grid)
4. College-ruled binder paper
5. Copybook
6. Homework
7. 3 dividers for homework, quizzes, and extra paper

Students need access to a computer and the Internet for homework.

Homework Policy

Homework will be assigned daily. All work should be completed legibly in **pencil** on binder (or graph) paper. It is due at the beginning of class. Homework will be graded as follows

1. 2 points:
 - a. Full header.
 - b. Problems are written down
 - c. All work is shown.
 - d. Turned in on time.
2. 1 point; one of the following is missing, but turn in on time:
 - a. Full header.
 - b. Problems are written down
 - c. All work is shown.

3. 1/2 point:
 - a. Late homework will be accepted up until the chapter test. No exceptions!
 - b. Work must have full heading, problem written down, and all work shown.
4. 0 points:
 - a. No work shown; just answers
5. Homework and quizzes should be kept organized in a binder for the trimester. At the end of the trimester, quizzes will be collected and filed in the classroom.

Test Corrections

Students can earn ½ point per test correction.

The following is expected when making test corrections:

1. Use “Learning From My Mistakes” form (see website)
2. Redo completely any problem you missed or partially missed
3. Must get redone problems correct
4. Stapled to the back of the original test.
5. Must be turned in within ONE WEEK of receiving the test back.

Expectations

1. **Effort:** Student should come to class with all necessary materials and work completed. They should be ready to begin class when the bell rings. They should be prepared to participate in class discussions and activities, and take notes.
2. **Conduct:** The classroom is a learning environment built upon the foundation of respect – respect for oneself, respect for others, and respect for property.
Disrespect will not be tolerated.

Grading Policy:

Classwork – 5%
Homework– 10%
Quizzes – 25%
Tests – 60%

Student Responsibilities:

It is your responsibility:

1. To read and follow all school policies set forth in the Parent-Student Handbook
2. To inform me of any planned absences
3. To be prepared for class every day
4. To ensure that your assignments are complete, neat, and legible.
5. To obtain class notes and turn in assignments due to an absence
6. To schedule tests missed due to an excused absence on the day of your return
7. To seek extra help should you need it