

Pre-Algebra Syllabus and Grading Policy 2019 - 2020
Mrs. Licht and Mr. Tomm and Mrs. Wiech (807- 3600 extension 1317)
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Class Description

This course counts as **one** high school math credit (3 credits are required for graduation). The purpose of this course is to bridge content from the 8th grade curriculum to the Common Core Algebra curriculum. Students in Pre-Algebra struggled with math in middle school and their teachers recommended them for this bridge course based on homework, attendance, and performance.

The daily class routine will consist of:

- reviewing and correcting homework that was due
- taking notes (copying from smartboard) in unit packet followed by teacher-led practice problems
- time to start homework

Students in Pre-Algebra will take a *local* exam in June (not the Regents exam). They will take Common Core Algebra in 10th grade. Students who fail Pre-Algebra cannot repeat the course, they will move on to Common Core Algebra without receiving credit for the course. This means that they must pass the next 3 years of math to graduate on time.

Students who are *actively* engaged in class will be successful. This means:

- ALWAYS doing homework
- being ready with supplies (red pen, pencil, and calculator) when the bell rings.
- asking questions about homework answers that are wrong and then fixing your work
- do not just copy what is being written, you need to think about what you are writing.

Required Supplies

- **at least 2-inch binder** - for math ONLY
- **Many Pencils** – ALL WORK must be completed in pencil.
- **RED pens** to be used daily to correct homework – homework not corrected in RED PEN will not receive full credit.
- **Ruler** – 6-inch (preferred) or 12-inch to be used for graphing
- **Supply pouch** to be clipped in to binder rings
- **Calculator:** **TI-83 Plus** (or TI-83 Plus Silver Edition or a TI – 84 Plus) graphing calculator
 - **Do not buy a different graphing calculator** such as Casio or the Nspire.
 - Make sure that you put your name on your calculator and give the calculator ID number to teacher

Buy the graphing calculator as soon as possible, as its use is required in class and for homework. We are aware of the large expense, therefore we will allow students to use a calculator from our class set (during class only) until one can be purchased. **Calculators will no longer be lent to students as of October 18th.**

Assignment Calendars

A monthly calendar will be given to students outlining all homework and test dates. This calendar should be placed (and replaced each month) as page 1 in your binder.

Homework

- Assigned and checked every day, including Fridays, for 5-points
 - 3-points at beginning of class – every question must be attempted **IN PENCIL** with some work shown for credit
 - 2-points for *corrected* homework that will be collected daily. Corrections must be **IN RED PEN** showing the full solution to the problem (not just the answer).
- Each homework assignment will be on both the front and back and will include some review questions of prior chapters that cannot be skipped. Refer to previous chapter notes for help.
- If a student comes to class without his/her homework assignment done, he/she can still earn 2-points by copying all of the corrections done in class in red pen.
- Pre-Algebra is not a “flipped classroom” (no online videos).
- Test review sheets will be a 20-point homework assignment. (10 points for having the assignment completely attempted in pencil and 10 points for turning it in completely corrected in red pen).

Quizzes

- 30-points Supply Quiz on September 13th
 - Binder (math only)
 - Supply pouch with pencils, red pens, and calculator (if already purchased)
 - September calendar
 - Chapter 1 Packet
- Several unannounced supply quizzes given per quarter including calculator checks.

Tests

- There will be approximately 3 – 4 tests per marking period (100 points each).
- There are no test corrections, make up tests, or extra credit for poor grades.
- Students are responsible for being prepared with a pencil and a calculator for all tests and quizzes. Calculators will not be given to unprepared students after October 18th.

Progress Reports

- Grades will be updated in e-school about once per week. Please check grades through parent portal often!
- Look for comments typed in to assignments.
- School progress reports are issued every 5 weeks and report cards are issued every 10 weeks on parent portal ONLY.
- I will print progress report and give to each student in class every 5 weeks to be signed and returned.

Extra Help

- Before 7:30 – 7:40 or after school 2:40 – 3:00 almost everyday
- AIS (academic intervention services) and SA (student assistance) classes can be scheduled through the guidance department.
- Please email us at any time at rtomm@ntschoools.org or jwiech@ntschoool.org with questions or concerns.

Absences

- Good attendance is important to success in high school. Missing 2 days per month is too many!!
- All missed work for days absent is due within 2 days of returning to school. Any work not made up within the allotted time will result in a 0 (including tests and quizzes).
- If a student comes in late after their Pre - Algebra class or leaves early before their class, it is expected that they see their teacher during that day to make arrangements for work missed. *Unexcused* late arrival to school will result in a grade of 0 for that day (missing bus, oversleeping, Tim Horton's line too long, etc).
- It is the student's responsibility to make arrangements to complete and turn in missed work. This should be done the day the student returns, not during class or passing time. Missed notes should be copied from nt.schoolology.com. Homework must be corrected from teacher binder (not another student) before it is turned in.
- Notify teacher several days in advance for planned absences such as music lessons, field trips, vacations, etc. Work may not be submitted late for such absences; therefore all missed work including getting notes, completing and correcting homework assignments and taking any missed test must be completed before the absence or the student will receive a grade of 0 for the work missed.

Academic Dishonesty

As with most high school level classes, academic dishonesty in this class will not be tolerated. The following behaviors are considered cheating:

- Allowing another student to copy his/her assignment (i.e. homework or test review sheets). This includes sending or receiving pictures of assignments electronically.
- Giving or receiving information about what is on a test or a quiz.
- Using a cell phone (or other device) to store, send, or receive information during a test or quiz.

Any student found guilty of the above behaviors (either giving or receiving) will be given a zero on that assignment or test and will be written up for cheating.

Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices

It clearly states in the student hand book that cell phones and electronic devices are not to be used during any academic time, therefore the following policy will be in place for this class:

- Cell phones must be placed in the cell phone holder in the front of the classroom **before** the class begins and must remain there until the bell rings at the end of the period, even if I am done teaching for that period.
- Students are not allowed to have a cell phone at their desk. iPads must be kept under the desk during class.
- Any student who is found to have a cell phone at their desk anytime during the class period will be written up for insubordination and their device will be confiscated and given to their principal.
- Ear-buds (or air-pods) are not allowed in the hallways or in class. If they are visible they will be confiscated and turned in to the principal.

Parents: Teenagers are very distracted by their cell phones and other electronic devices. Every beep, buzz or flashing light is a distraction to them. This high school class requires 40 minutes of 100% attention. If you need to reach your son/daughter in an emergency situation, please call the office (807 – 3600) and they will get the message to them. Please read the school's policy regarding use of mobile digital technology devices in the student handbook.

Pre-Algebra Course Contract

Student Name: _____

Period: _____

RETURN THIS
PAGE ONLY

PARENTS: Please sign acknowledging that you read and understand the information outlined in the syllabus and grading policy.

STUDENTS: Return this copy to school by Wednesday 10/9/19 for a 30-point quiz grade that will not be dropped. Five points will be deducted for each day that it is turned in late.

Parent Signature

Date

Student Signature

Date

Please print the following information:

Parent/Guardian contact name: _____

Relationship to student: _____

Please print the best phone number and/or email address to contact you during the school day:

Please write a comment or tell me something you would like me to know about your son/daughter (or email me at rtomm@ntschoools.org or jwiech@ntschoools.org)

Student Biography Continued on Back

Student Biography

Full Name: _____

Nickname: _____

Tell me about your family (who do you live with, siblings, pets, etc.):

What are your plans for after high school? If you're planning to go to college, what career path are you interested in? Why?

What school activities (or athletics) are you involved in?

What are your hobbies/interests outside of school?

Choose 3 words that you would use to describe yourself:

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

I want you to be successful in this class. What can you do to improve your grades from last year?

Tell me something about yourself that I haven't asked that you think is interesting.