



ALGEBRA 1 Syllabus

Mrs. Myers

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Welcome to Algebra 1. QUEST works cooperatively as a TEAM to bring the finest education to your child. We are committed to the following CORE VALUES:

- We will develop genuine and authentic relationships with parents, students, and the community.
- We believe in the power and effectiveness of teaming to meet the needs of students through small learning communities, based on the principles of school within a school.
- We believe all classes must have a defined, viable, and rigorous standards-based curriculum.
- We believe the best interest of our students must be the driving force in all of our decisions.

I. Textbook: McDougall's *ALGEBRA 1*. This course is completed in one year. Due to this accelerated pace, students must take their studies very seriously. In order to be recommended for HONORS Geometry, a student must have approximately 95% test/quiz average by third quarter. Please refer to textbook for a full list of the Calif. Standards that will be covered this year.

II. Grading System

90 – 100% = A	Advanced
80 – 89% = B	Proficient
70 – 79% = C	Basic
60 – 69% = D	Below Basic
0 – 59% = F	Far Below Basic

GRADE Breakdown: Practice: **20%** Tests/Quizzes: **80%**

TESTS are never sent home for security reasons. Parents may make an appt to see their child's file any time during the course of the year. Grades can be seen at any time once a student receives password/login information for Snapgrades, an online grading system.

III. Practice/Homework Policy

1. Homework will be assigned every class day with very few exceptions. Students are expected to write down assignments in their planners. Each assignment is numbered. Planners are stamped at the beginning of class to verify that the student wrote down the assignment. It does not mean that work was completed successfully. Parents are encouraged to compare the planner HW # with their child's spiral ring notebook to verify that the HW was done.

2. **ONLINE HELP** (www.Classzone.com). Select Middle School Math, California, GO to book. Our book is ALGEBRA 1 with the Kayak on the front. Book ISBN Number is: 0-618-81179-6. Online help comes directly from the textbook publisher and provides each daily class lesson in power point plus there is a "home tutor", interactive practice, games and activities, animated math, an electronic workbook, math vocabulary flip cards, practice quizzes and tests for every section of the book. This is an amazing resource for the student and parent. For parents there is a special section just for you under "Quick Reference" entitled "Parents as Partners". Here a parent can find a guide for every section of the book leading them through questions to ask their child after he/she finishes that section in the book.

3. **ABSENT work:** It is a student's responsibility to obtain make-up work. Call your STUDY BUDDY for it or ask to see teacher's planner where it can be found. Go online to get the daily

lesson power point presentation at www.classzone.com. It will take you through the lesson you missed.

4. **Specific Guidelines:** HW is to be in pencil only. Be neat; write every problem out first except those that are longer than a sentence. Show work – every step. Circle, box or highlight answers. Use graph paper when asked to graph. You may cut and paste it onto your HW or you may simply use graph paper spiral notebooks for everything. It's a great way to keep neat and organized if you really use the grids to guide you. Correct in **COLOR** as able from the back of the book. Rework problems until you get them correct. Remember to do the HW the same day it is assigned. Come by for help at Brunch the next day if you have any difficulty. "I didn't get it" is a poor excuse. Late work is accepted for partial credit and only if turned in within the next few days.

IV. Classroom Management Policy

- A. **NECESSARY PASSES:** Each student gets two passes per quarter. These may be used for a restroom visit, drinking fountain. They are not transferable meaning you can't give your pass to another student or use a Quarter 1 pass in Quarter 2.
- B. To maintain a positive and effective learning environment, the following agreements are made
 - 1. Treat all people and property with respect.
 - 2. Be in class, seated with planner out when the bell rings or you are considered tardy.
 - 3. Bring your supplies to class every day.
 - 4. Raise your hand and wait to be called on before speaking or leaving your seat.
 - 5. Use appropriate and respectful language at all times.
 - 6. No food, drinks or gum allowed. Water is ok.
 - 7. All electronics must be packed away and not out during class or they will be confiscated and returned at a later time.
 - 8. No core passing without permission.

Consequences for breaking class agreements are

- 1. Teacher warning
- 2. Lunch Detention, call home
- 3. Lunch Detention, call home, team discipline (parents may be invited to attend as well)
- 4. Lunch Detention, call home, referral to counselor
- 5. Lunch Detention, call home, referral to assistant principal

GUEST TEACHER ALERT: I have very high expectations for student behavior when a guest teacher is in my place. Consequences follow the same as when I am present and can include a teacher conference, detention, referral to the office and even class suspension in severe cases.

V. Attendance Policy

Attendance is important and directly related to success. Students should be in their seats when the tardy bell rings or they are tardy. The School Tardy Policy and the District Attendance Policy will be strictly enforced. The School Tardy Policy is outlined in the student planner. Tardy discipline is handled by our attendance office.

VI. SUPPLIES NEEDED: always have a **reading book** for times when you finish up early in class. A reading book is required for **Advisory reading** time as well.

- 1 to 2 spiral notebooks per quarter (70 page type): for warm-ups, lesson notes and practice/homework
- #2 pencils: You should have several pencils on hand. Better yet is to have two mechanical pencils (Pentel-Twist Erase are pricey but long lasting) plus extra lead and eraser tips.
- Erasers – (pentel white erasers are great)
- Correcting pens (colored)
- Colored pencils or markers for highlighting and/or for showing different math steps to help make your notes more interesting/fun
- Straight-edge/ruler

VII. Movie Permission: There are several movies that may or may not be shown during the year. These are used in part mostly to illustrate or serve as a topic teaser. For instance, I use a clip from *The Great Debaters* to illustrate a particular logic term used in reasoning. Please circle any movies in the following list that you **DO NOT** want your child to see. Otherwise, by signing this syllabus I will assume you are comfortable with your child seeing them.

Supersize Me	PG-13	A Beautiful Mind	PG-13	30 Days	TV Series on FOX
The Great Debaters	PG-13	Apollo 13	PG	Toy Story	PG
The Ultimate Gift	PG	The Kid	PG		

Students who NEED HELP: I offer brunch tutor time on odd days. Appointments may be made for other times.

DONATION Request: You can support us by donating any of the following items:

electric pencil sharpener, tissue boxes, spiral notebooks, graph paper, pencils, and erasers. **PLUS** we would love a parent to create a **TEAM WEBSITE** and maintain it for us. Please indicate below if you would like to do this

TURN to SIGNATURE PAGE

SIGNATURE PAGE

RETURN THIS PAGE with signatures in place

Student Name:

Parent/Guardian:

Home Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian name: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian name: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian Email:

Parent/Guardian Email:

Student Email:

From the parent/guardian to the teacher:

Here is some important information that I would like you to know about my child:

From the Student to the Teacher:

Here is some important information that I would like for you to know about me:

By signing below, I am indicating that I have read and understand the above syllabus:

STUDENT Name (printed) _____

Student's Signature _____

PARENT'S Name (printed) _____

Parent's Signature _____

