Algebra 1 Class Standards

DHS. - 2017/2018 (Instructor: Mr. Peter Ngugi)

Contact Information: Dulles High school - Room A203.

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Welcome to Algebra 1. The main reason why we study math is to develop problem – solving skills which strengthens and expands the ability to reason well.  That thinking process causes the brain to work, much like a muscle. The more that muscle works out, the better it performs on other tasks. In simple terms, algebra builds a better brain (as do other disciplines such as learning an instrument, doing puzzles, and, yes, even some video games). When the brain is stimulated to think, the hair-like neurons grow more extensive and more complex enabling more connections with other brain cells. We often hear that we use only a small percentage of our brain's capacity. The study of algebra is a way to increase our use of this marvelous muscle. By studying algebra, more "highways" are "built" upon which future "cargo" is transported - cargo here means innovation. 40 years ago, there were NO cellphones and 40 years to come the quality of life is beyond my imagination now - all because of brainpower. Below is some standards that will go a long way in helping us acquire a rock solid math skill set.

1. **Entering the classroom:**

You should enter the room quietly, proceed straight to your assigned seat, get out any work that is due, write down any important information displayed on the board - e.g. Daily Objective &H/work Assignment, and begin the assignment on the white board. When you enter the classroom with a quiet voice everyone knows it is time to get to work. Your quiet voice helps others to have a quiet voice. A quiet voice shows respect.

1. **Be a Prepared Student**.

A Prepared Student is in seat on time; has plenty of paper in his/her Algebra 1 binder; has two or more sharp pencils. A sharp pencil is one that is sharpened before class, is at least four inches long and has an eraser. Mechanical pencils with plenty of lead are allowed. **No** Pens or Markers. Include a box of tissues which we can keep in class.

**3. Class Rules.**

a) Be prepared with assignments and materials

1. Be on time to class and in completing your assignments

c) Be respectful to the teacher and other classmates (this includes property)

d) Be willing to participate in class and seek help if needed

1. **Tardy Students**

Efficient use of class time is essential to the student’s success. If you come into class after the tardy bell, write your name on the tardy form in the binder by the door. If you have the blue tardy slip from the attendance office, give it to me and proceed to your seat and begin participating in class without disturbing the work already in progress. 3rd tardy will result to a week of sparkle or an AM/PM Detention. 4th tardy will result to two weeks of sparkle or two AM/PM Detention. 5th tardy, your principal with assign you a more severe consequence. Avoid all that by coming to class on time.

1. **Dismissal**

When the bell rings, you are to remain in your seat until I dismiss the class. You can speed your dismissal by following any wrap-up instructions near the end of class, and by staying in your seat until I dismiss you. **Lining up** at the door is not allowed.

1. **Personal requests**

(Rest room, water, pencil sharpener, go to the office, and others). Personal requests should be avoided at the beginning of class before the entire class understands the day’s learning objective and begins to work on it. **1st 10 Min** and last **10 Min** **NO** bathroom rule will apply.

**9. Class Clean-up & Class Calculator.** Clean your area and use DOC B to clear your assigned calculator, not more than 2 Min prior to leaving. Do not mark on the tables, chairs or the calculators. Do not remove the bar code at the back of the calculator. Notify me of the above problems if any - at the begging of class. You will be held responsible for any damage to your assigned seat & calculator.

1. **Visitors in the classroom.** When there is a visitor in the classroom, act courteously towards that person, but the best thing you can do is to focus on your class work as though no visitor was present.

**12. Eating, Drinking, Chewing Gum and Grooming:**

The procedure is that no one should be eating/drinking/chewing anything in our classroom. Please dispose of any such items prior to arriving in our classroom. Our school has carpeted classrooms and we like them clean. Moreover, we do **NOT** groom ourselves in our classroom; do not apply make-up/ lotion; do not comb/brush your hair. Grooming should be done prior to coming to class. We only have 50 Min. of class full of learning activities – time is valuable.

**13. Cell Phones or other Electronic devices (EDs):**

The school wide cell phone policy is that, **NO** use of cell phones or EDs in class. **Turn off** all electronic devices before entering the class. Do likewise for the other electronic devices and keep them away. Otherwise use of such devices will lead to confiscation. However, you may use your phone before outside class.

**15. Grading.** For 9 Weeks: At least 13 **Daily** grades – 50% and At least 3 **Major** grades – 50%

* Semester 1 Credit: 1st term = 43% and 2nd term = 42% and Semester Final Exam = 15%
* Semester 2 Credit: 3rd term = 43% and 4th term = 42% and Semester Final Exam = 15%

**A**: *90-100* **B**: *80-89*  **C**: 70 -79 **F**: *69 and below*

**16. Textbook:** We use the class set of Algebra 1 textbookswhich remains in class all the time. You will be responsible for your assigned copy. You are **NOT** allowed to take the Algebra 1 textbook home to finish your assignments. You are allowed to borrow a school Algebra 1 textbook from (Assistant Principal) – D hall

**17. Discipline Procedures:**

There is Zero Tolerance for misbehavior in class. Students whose behavior disrupts the learning environment will be subject to the following;

* Level 1 - Seat reassignment/parent contact/ assign sparkle or AM/PM Detention
* Level 2 - 1st Referral to Principal and a phone call to parents.(Extended Det., Saturday Det., or ISS)
* Level 3 &4 – School Suspension, District Alternative Education Program and/or Citations will be issued if warranted by the offence.

**18.** Algebra I Tutorial Schedule

**2017/18**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| Morning  (6:50-7:20) | Ms. Ayala  A206 | -------- | Mrs. Finley  A204 | Mr. Chen  A202 | Mr. Ngugi  A203 |
| Afternoon  (2:40-3:10) | Mr. Chen  A202 | Mr. Ngugi  A203 | -------- | Ms Ayala  A206 | -------- |