**7th Grade PRE-ALGEBRA Syllabus/Contract**

CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND GRADING

1. Classroom Environment
2. Responsibilities
3. Grading (Letter Grades, Citizenship, Work Habits)
4. Homework Policy & Study Strategies
5. Algebra 1 Placement Requirements (thinking ahead for 8th grade)

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1. **Classroom Environment**
* Enter the room quietly and leave the room quietly.
* Be in your seat with your homework ready to show the teacher
* Cover textbook to prevent damage (your name on the inside cover please)
* Show respect to yourself, fellow classmates, your teacher, and any guest teacher.
* The following list includes the materials that are used in class each day… ***paper, pencils, erasers, a correcting pen or marker, high-lighter, calculator, agenda planner, a graph paper notebook, and an organized school binder (I prefer a separate binder for math, if possible* ☺*).*** *If you bring a Chromebook to class, remember to have it charged and to bring the**charger cable with you, just in case.*
1. **Responsibilities**
* Turn in homework on time (the following class period) with all support work shown in order to earn FULL credit. A maximum of **half credit** will be given for work turned in **one class meeting late**, and a **zero** will be recorded the next class meeting if not completed.
* Students should check **Google Classroom/School Website** for HW and other important class information.  **Unit calendars** will **always be printed and should be in your binder at all times**.
* Ask permission to use technology devices in class (SMARTBoard, iPad, Chromebook)
* For excused absences, students must make up classwork, notes, homework, quizzes, and tests.  Each student must be in communication with me **the day they return** from an absence to make up quizzes and tests. Email me to schedule the makeup exam/quiz either before or after school, or during lunch time. If you know of your absence ahead of time, that’s even better!!! ☺ Let me know beforehand.
* Each student will be expected to do a “Math Test Corrections” assignment **after every test** in order to recognize & fix mistakes.  Students will fix their “Top 5” biggest mistakes; and will fix these mistakes with support work. These **assignments will require a parent/guardian signature**. All tests will be stored in the classroom and are available for review by appointment only. **Tests may not be taken home**.
* Each student is responsible for their part of group work or partner work.
* Each student is responsible for cleaning up their desk area before the class is over.
1. **Grading**
2. **Letter Grades**:
* Each assignment in Q will be given a **point value**.
* Grades are **not** calculated by simply adding up the points earned and dividing by the total points possible. Instead, assignments ***are weighted*** in categories as follows:

Homework/classwork      (10%)

Projects/Group Work/ Group Reviews      (15%)

Quizzes                            (25%)

Tests                                (50%)

 Letter Grades are calculated using the following grading scale:



.10x (hw avg) + .15 x (proj/group avg) + .25 x (quizzes avg) + .50 x (test avg) = current %

* Grades are updated weekly, if not daily, so please check Q-connect often! ☺
1. **Citizenship**:

A check system will be used each quarter during class to hold students accountable for the classroom rules. Checks will be given if students are disrespectful to fellow classmates or the teacher. Each quarter, citizenship grades will be assigned as follows:

 

1. **Work Habits**:

A Work Habits grade will be based upon the **completion percentage** of **both classwork** and **homework**. Quarterly Work Habits grades will be assigned as follows:

 94% - 100% = Outstanding (O) 75% - 84% = Needs Improvement (N)

 85% - 93% = Satisfactory (S) 74% or below = Unsatisfactory (U)

1. **Homework Policy & Study Strategies**

Since classes meet every other day with the block schedule, homework will be assigned each class period and is **due the next class meeting**.  For instance, if a class meets on Thursday, the homework is due on the following Monday.  Friday assignments are due on the following Tuesday, etc...

I have suggested to the students that they **do their homework on the night it is assigned.**  That will allow them the opportunity to come see me the next day to clarify any questions they may have.

**STUDENT SUCCESS: some suggestions are listed below**:

* Create a study routine where the student can work quietly and uninterrupted by distractions such as the cell phone, television, video games, etc.  All materials need to be provided in their study area so time will not be wasted.
* Set up study sessions with a friend/study buddy to study for quizzes & tests (quiz each other)
* Check Google Classroom frequently for assignments & answer keys
* Utilize any online resources/apps/websites/office hours for extra help & practice
* STAY ORGANIZED!!!! Spend at least one day each week organizing your notes and homework. Always make sure you have a copy of the current chapter calendar in your binder.
* Check Q weekly (no surprises relating to your grade)
* Keep your parents in the loop! Tell them what you did in class… show them your notes, talk through homework with them and get them involved in your learning (it’s pretty cool what your parents can learn from you! ☺)
1. **Algebra 1 Placement Requirements** (thinking ahead for 8th grade)

**The Algebra 1 course at Medea Creek is the same as the ninth grade Algebra 1 program at Oak Park High School.  The majority of 8thgrade students are enrolled in the Algebra Introductions Course.** **Students must meet ALL FOUR following requirements to be considered for Algebra 1 next year:**

1.     Students must have at least an ***A-*** grade on three of the four quarters report cards this year, with no less than a “B“ in any quarter.

2.     Students must have ***Outstanding*** in **Work Habits** in all four quarters.

3.     Students must earn at least an **85% on Algebra Placement Exam (UCLA H.S. Readiness).**

4. **Students must receive at least an 85% on the Post Skills Test** (given at the end of the third quarter).

**STUDENTS PLEASE BE AWARE OF THESE REQUIREMENTS AND WORK TOWARD MEETING THEM IF YOU WANT TO BE PLACED IN ALGEBRA 1 AS AN 8THGRADER.**



I am very much looking forward to working with each one of you and hope that this will be a successful year for you!  **Remember that I am here to help you**. If you have any problems or questions, please feel free to come and talk to me or send me an email.

I want you to feel confident!

I want you to ask LOTS of questions in class!

I want you to persevere and continue to work hard, even when the material gets complicated!

I want you to be proud of all of your successes and learn from your mistakes!

I want you to remember that you are capable!

I want you to help others and be KIND and PATIENT to all your math family members in class!

I want you “like” math, or maybe even “really enjoy it” or “love it”!!! ☺ *(I will do my best)*

I want you to recognize at least 2 good things that happen in your life every day!

Have a wonderful year!

* MCMS Math Department

**7th Grade PRE-ALGEBRA Syllabus/Contract**

**\*\*\*Please Sign and Return Next Class!\*\*\***

 **Refer to the pages of the syllabus/contract *on my website* for future reference**.

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (print student name) **have read** the **Pre-Algebra** expectations and class syllabus with a parent/guardian from the class website and understand what each of the following categories entail:

**I.  Classroom Environment**

**II.  Responsibilities**

**III.  Grading (Letter Grades, Citizenship, Work Habits)**

**IV.  Homework Policy & Study Strategies**

**V.  Requirements for Going into Algebra 1 in 8th Grade**

With the signing of this contract, I make a commitment to follow these guidelines throughout the school year. I promise to work hard, be respectful, and do my best always!

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Student Name (printed)      Date            Period/Day (A or B)

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ / 2019

Parent/ Guardian Signature                     Date

**Wohooo MATH! Yeah ;)**

* Amy Sinnamon (asinnamon@opusd.org)