Algebra I – Course Syllabus

*Willowridge High School*

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*Houston, TX 77053*

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**Text:**

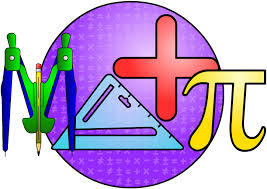
***Course Description*:**

This course provides an up-to-date development of algebraic concepts while continuing to improve arithmetic and number sense skills. A variety of strategies and approaches are used to provide the student with multiple representations of the concepts. Equations, inequalities, polynomials, relations, and functions are used as essential tools of Algebra I. The understanding of these concepts will be enhanced by the use of appropriate of technology. Problem solving skills are stressed.

***Materials for Class:***

* 2 spiral/composition notebooks (class notes/journal)
* 1 pack of loose leaf paper
* 2 packs of pencils (NO PEN)
* Three ring binder – at least 1’

**Binder Setup:**

1. Bell ringers
2. Spiral – NOTES
3. Assignments/loose leaf paper
4. Graded work/Grade sheet

***Classroom Expectations:***

1. Follow/Adhere to all rules and guidelines in the student handbook.
2. Come to class prepared with ALL materials.
3. ALL assignments must be submitted in pencil –ABSOLUTELY NO PEN!
4. Turn in all assignments and projects ON TIME!
5. Do not hesitate to ask for help!
6. Must be in the classroom when the bell rings and immediately begin warm-up.
7. Show respect to yourself, others and the teacher.

***Tardy Policy:***

1st -3rd: Student will receive a warning

4th: Student conference and parent will be contacted.

5th & 6th: Student will receive Sparkle Duty, Lunch Detention or other school based strategy

7th & 8th: Student will receive a 2 days Lunch Detention

9th & 10th: Student will receive one day of ISS

11th & 12th: Student will receive two days of ISS

13th & above: 3-5 days of ISS; suspension or further consequence deemed appropriate by the principal

\***Tardies start over each 9 weeks**.

***Grading Policy:***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Percentage** | **Letter Grade** |
| 90-100% | A |
| 80-89% | B |
| 75-79% | C |
| 70-74% | D |
| 69% and below | F |

Your **quarter** grade is broken down as follows*:*

**Major Grades***:* **50%**

(*Tests – 40%, Projects – 10%)*

**Minor Grades:** **50%**

*(Quizzes – 25%, Classwork – 15%, Homework – 10%)*

*Homework:*

Homework is determined by incomplete class assignments. If students do not complete in class assignments, it becomes homework, unless otherwise specified. All homework is checked upon arrival to class the following day.

*Bell ringers:*

* Students must copy and complete the daily bell ringer on the board within the first 5-7 minutes of class.
* Bell ringers per week will be recorded on the given “bell ringer” paper that will be collected every day except Friday for a grade.
* Bell ringers cannot be made up, regardless of the nature of the absence. Students with *excused* absences will not be held accountable for the bell ringer from that day.

*Journals/Brain Teasers:*

Every Friday students will receive a journal prompt or a brain teaser to complete within the first 5 minutes of class. Since students will receive 20 pts. per week for bell work; Any journal/brain teaser completed within that week will count as extra credit or can be used to replace missing bell work.

* Journals – Journals will remain in the classroom in the appropriate labeled bin for that class. They must be completed in the spiral/composition and will be graded by the end of the 9 weeks as an extra credit grade. Students must have 5 complete sentences to receive full credit for their journal.
* Brain Teasers – Students must correctly answer the given brain teaser with their name and submit before it before time is up.

*Binder*:

Students may receive up to 5% percentage points added to their ***semester*** grade for keeping an organized, accurate binder of their work. At the end of each semester students will receive a list of assignments that must be in their binder according to assignment date to receive the extra points. This may serve as a personal portfolio to use as a reference in higher level mathematics courses. *(Optional)*

***Make-up Work:***

It is the students’ responsibility to retrieve any missing assignments from being absent, excused or unexcused.

* The number of days missed=number of days allotted to make up an assignment.
* Exams and quizzes will be made up upon return to school or during after school tutorials.

***Late Work Policy:***

Any assignments that are not submitted by or on the due date will only receive half credit at most. ABSOLUTELY NO ASSIGNMENTS from past progress periods will be accepted.

***Classroom Management Procedures:***

*Entering/Exiting Class:*

* Students must be in the room before the bell STOPS ringing. Students will have 1 minute after the bell has stopped to gather all materials (sharpened pencil, binder etc.) and be in assigned seat to begin bell work.
* Students who are tardy will be sent to retrieve a tardy pass.
* No student will leave the classroom without a valid pass. Each student is allotted 4, 5 minute hall passes per 9 week period. Use your passes wisely!

*Calculator Use:*

* Students will be assigned a school owned calculator for *in-class* use only.
* Calculators must be returned to the charging dock before the end of their class period.
* Student is responsible for any damage to calculator while in his/her possession.

*Offensive Behavior:*

1st Offense: Warning

2nd Offense: Conference with student

3rd Offense: Call home, detention for that hour

4th Offense & up: Call home and referral to the dean

* Misbehavior while in group activites will result in the following consequences. While the rest of the class continues to work in groups, the offenders will be forced to work alone, lose points and figure out concepts for themselves.
* Students must understand time is of the essence. The amount of time it takes the class to get their behavior under control for a lesson, is the time taken at the end of the period.

*Routine to exit class:*

* YOU ARE NOT DISMISSED BY THE SOUND OF THE BELL BUT THE SOUND OF MY VOICE!
* Neatly place binder back on the bookshelf according to class.
* Be sure to gather all personal belongings and clean any trash around area.
* The room will be checked by the weekly monitor for clearance.
* You are free to leave the classroom once you hear, “You are dismissed, have a wonderful day!” from the teacher.

  **Need Extra Help???**

***Tutorials:***

**Monday** ⇛ *Appointment Only*

**Tuesday** ⇛ 3:00*pm*-4:00*pm*

**Wednesday** ⇛ *Appointment Only*

**Thursday** ⇛ 3:00*pm* – 4:00*pm*

**Friday** ⇛ NO TUTORIALS



**Parent/Student/Teacher Commitment Contract Form**

**Parent/Guardian Commitment:**

I expect my student to reach his/her full academic potential. Therefore, I will commit to all of the following:

• Ensure that my child attends school each day, on time and ready to learn.

• Review homework assignments and offer assistance when needed.

• Show an interest in my child’s well-being by attending school functions, supporting school activities, and making every effort to attend parent-teacher conferences.

• Personal goal(s) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\* If extenuating circumstances prevent me from a full commitment I will offer an explanation to the appropriate administrator(s) or staff member(s).

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**Student Commitment:**

I want to reach my full academic potential. Therefore, I will commit to do all of the following:

• Arrive at school and attend class on time each day.

• Show respect to the teacher, peers and myself at all times.

• Obey all of the classroom rules and conduct myself accordingly.

• Pay attention in class and participate in class discussions.

• Complete all classroom lessons and homework on time in a way that is accurate.

• Personal goal(s):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Teacher Commitment:**

I want your student to reach his/her full academic potential. Therefore, I will commit to do all of the following:

• Set high instructional standards for myself that promote the development of the district’s content standards and benchmarks.

• Teach effective study skills and strategies to ensure retention of learning.

• Notify the parent/guardian as soon as an attendance/academic problems develop.

• Establish flexible scheduling and create a warm atmosphere for parents/guardians during classroom visits and participation in the activities.

• Personal goal(s): For the student to complete this class with a deeper knowledge and understanding of concepts that were unfamiliar before.

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\*I have read, understood and agree to the syllabus and contract presented above.

*Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Teacher Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*