

Subject:8th Pre-Algebra

Textbook: Big Ideas Blue Book

Classroom: 5

Teacher: Steffani Grogan

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Course Description:

Pre-Algebra is the basic course that lays the foundation for high school algebra. All students must master the required math standards for 8th grade and they will be our primary objective. This rigorous course requires cooperative learning and we will use it to demonstrate understanding of the material. First semester includes equations, transformations, angles, linear equations and systems of linear equations. Second semester, students acquire knowledge of functions, Pythagorean theorem, volume, statistics, exponents and scientific notation. This course is required for students who will proceed to algebra next year.

Supplies:

1 folder left in the classroom (Notes and examples will be kept through the semester.)

You still need to bring another notebook daily to do homework in

Pencils (I will not grade work in pen)

Grading System:

My policy states 60% of your grade is determined by assessments. This category includes quizzes, exit passes, and tests. The other 40% will be determined by classwork, homework, and projects. There will be plenty of assessments (about 1-2 weekly). First semester will cover equations, transformations, angles, and Systems of Equations. Second semester includes functions, Pythagorean Theorem, volume, exponents, scientific Notation and statistics. I use the Forsyth High School grading system to determined letter grade.

Unit test may be retaken for a better grade with the following restrictions –

1. All corrections on 1st test are checked by instructor
2. Retest is given before or after school for maximum success
3. The 2nd test score replaces the grade in the gradebook
4. Retest must be taken before the next unit test occurs in class

Expectations:

This can be a challenging course and the instructor will be available as much as possible. I will be available from 7:00 am and until 4 pm most days until driver's ed class starts. The expectations are great and you **will** work. Mrs. Killebrew, Mrs. Wilson and the afterschool program are also great places to get math help.

Consequences:

- 1st warning – verbal reminder to stay focused
- 2nd warning – automatic loss of daily grade (could be homework or test!)
- 3rd warning –afterschool detention (with me), phone conference with parent
- Extreme offense – immediate suspension from class, personal conference with parent

Tardiness & Entering/Leaving the room:

- Do not be tardy – please get your supplies and find your seat before the bell finishes ringing – you always have a warm-up activity posted on the board.
- If you hang around the door at the end of class I will ask you to stay 2 minutes **after** the bell.
- For emergencies, you are expected to use the back doors near our classroom and stay in the group.

Homework and Makeup Work:

Students will be given a pacing guide at the beginning of each chapter. This guide will contain dates, pages covered, and homework assignments for the entire chapter in advance. Students will be expected to collect their assignments prior to absences. Assignments not found in the textbook are available in the homework crate in class inside the appropriate folder. At the beginning of every week, Mrs. Grogan will announce the required assignments for that week's eligibility – any items not turned in by due date will be recorded as a zero. Assignments can be turned in until the end of the quarter for a late grade of no more than 70%. If a student knows that he/she is to be absent for appointments, school activities, or a trip, make up work before leave or work out a due date with teacher upon his/her return. Any missed tests due to unexpected absences must be made up in a reasonable amount of time – refer to office hours for feasible times for make-ups usually 2 days.