

Welcome to High School Algebra. I am looking forward to another great year at Aprende Middle School! This is an advanced math course for which students will earn high school credit if they meet certain grade expectations and exam test scores throughout the year. Students need to have passed, with mastery, a standard 8th grade level math class in order to be successful in this course. We will be learning new math concepts and building on what you already know. You will participate in problem-solving, group exploration, math review, direct instruction, and time for self-paced practice of skills online to help you learn and master the concepts this year. Please be prepared to work hard this year, high school level courses are more rigorous than middle school level math classes. I will help you every step of the way. But, the person that will help you be most successful in math class is yourself. The harder you work, the easier and more fun math will be!

Supplies:

- 3-Ring Binder (1" or 1½" size)
- 5 Tabbed Dividers
- LOTS of lined loose leaf paper
- LOTS of pencils, erasers, pens, highlighters
- Optional: graph paper, ruler, Post-it flags/notes,
- Scientific Calculator or Graphing Calculator (I have a classroom set to borrow during class)

Homework

- Expect homework 4-5 days per week. It will usually take at least 30 focused minutes or more to complete.
- If you don't understand a problem or assignment, **you still must attempt the problems showing work and effort.** This is what it takes to avoid no credit if you are really confused. **Blank problem=No points**
- On your homework, please show **all** of your work and all of the steps we discuss in class/write in notes. **No work = No points.**
- Homework will be graded for accuracy in class daily. Some assignments are entered into the gradebook for completion credit, but most earn points for accuracy. Students are expected to grade assignments and correct wrong answers to keep as a study tool for tests.

Middle School Grading Scale

- 80% Assessments (Tests, Quizzes, Projects, MATHia)
- 20% Practice (Homework, classwork, warmups etc)

A = 90-100 % B = 80-89 % C = 70 - 79 % D = 60 - 69 % F = 0 to 59%

Retakes

Test retakes in the high school course are not allowed. Please be prepared on the material and seek help before an assessment. If the whole class scores poorly, the whole class will go back to reteach and retake on the material. Individual retakes will be considered on a case-by-case basis for extenuating circumstances only. Please email me if you have any concerns.

How do I raise my grade?

- Take notes, do your homework, & ask questions and participate while grading and in class discussions.
- Ask for extra help during class or make an appointment to come in before school for tutoring.
- There is no extra credit in this course, so do your best on every assignment!
- ***Please seek help before assessments, not after them***

Absence Policy

- When you are absent, ***it is your responsibility to obtain the information and assignments you missed.*** Assignments missed will be entered in the gradebook as 0 Missing, and when a student has completed, graded, and turned in the absent work the grade will be updated.
- Check my website, the board in my classroom, and handouts file folder for any worksheets and notes. Copy down any notes you missed, complete the section from the book we worked on, and schedule a time for quiz or test make ups if necessary.
- You have 2 school days for each day absent to complete missed work (homework, as well as notes, warm-ups, class work, quizzes & tests, too!) After this time period, missed work becomes late.

Late Work Policy

- ***Work needs to be completed on time and will be checked at the start of each class.***
- Work completed late will be accepted for partial credit up until the test on the content.
- Absolutely no late work for any reason will be accepted after the unit on which the work was assigned.

MATHia

- Work in online math program MATHia which is aligned to our textbook for one full class period per week and occasionally as homework. This is required practice of material needed to master the content in class lessons used digitally in place of worksheet assignments.
- Progress is graded according to percentages on units and completion of required problems.

Student Expectations:

Responsibility
Respect
Preparation

Consequences:

Verbal warning
In Class Time Out / Refocus
ISI Time Out (out of class) and parent contact
Referral to Administrator

Teacher Availability:

If any questions arise during the semester, Ms. Christian can be reached at lchristian@kyrene.org . Please see my website for a weekly calendar and all of the information, notes, and assignments distributed in class at www.kyrene.org/lchristian. Extra help / tutoring is available before school, typically on Thursdays, and dates will be announced throughout the year.

Advanced Course Requirements

This is an Advanced Class. It will have a rigorous pace and work load. You are required to maintain an 80% or higher to stay in the course. If your grade falls below 80%, you need to seek help and raise your grade. If you do not raise it above an 80% after a few weeks of effort, we will call a meeting to discuss progress, math class placement, and possible schedule change. The first academic grade check will occur at the 4 - 5 week mark in the quarter and every few weeks following.