



Welcome to Algebra!

August 19, 2009

This year you will be challenging yourself more than ever in your mathematical career. Every day I will be asking you to embrace these challenges with a **dedication to succeed** and a **positive attitude**. With commitment, perseverance, and a willingness to work hard you can be successful in learning Algebra. There are important expectations that you need to fully understand and discuss with your parent or guardian as you begin the year.

Homework

Expect to have homework assigned every class period. It is critical for your success that you complete 100% of the work assigned in the expected time frame. Homework will be checked for completion, not accuracy, on the day that it is due. If you come to class without an assignment you will receive a lunch detention and make a phone call home to inform a guardian of the consequence.

Supplies

I expect you to come to class organized and prepared every day. You must bring the following supplies to class every day.

- 1" 3-ring binder with college ruled notebook paper
- pencil with an eraser
- planner
- composition book (will remain in classroom)
- graph paper (remain in locker until needed)

Binder tabs will be provided to assist you in maintaining the organization of your binder. Time in class will also be provided to clean out binders in between units of study. If you are in need of assistance in maintaining any of the required supplies please let me know ASAP.

Assessments

Your grade will be largely determined based on progress shown on in-class assessments using the 1, 2, 3, 4 rubric scoring guide. When a score below 3 is earned you will be given a second opportunity to assess. Frequent in-class quizzes will be used to assess student understanding of each concept along the way and will not affect the final grade.

Study Sessions

Regular study sessions will be available for all students interested on Tuesday afternoons from 3:05-3:50 in my room, unless otherwise informed by myself. I will also be available for weekly help sessions on Thursday mornings at 7:30am. Before major tests extra study sessions will also be available.

Web Resources

You can access your book online at www.pearsonsuccessnet.com, using the following:

Username: mitchenerstudent

Password: algebra

Also check out the homework help sites that can be located directly from my website at: <http://www.kirkwoodschoools.org/faculty/mitches>

High School Credit

If you meet the expectations of the course by demonstrating proficient knowledge of all content objectives and receiving a grade of C or above, you will receive high school credit for the course. The grade will appear on your transcript as a semester grade, calculated by averaging the two quarter grades you earned in class. If you receive a quarter grade of C or below your progress will be evaluated by the teacher, and recommendations to repeat Algebra freshman year could follow. In this circumstance you will earn a second chance at learning the course material and receiving high school credit.

Questions?

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns, or celebrations as the year progresses. I check my email in the mornings, afternoons about once every evening. You may also reach me by phone during school hours. More than anything this year I want you to know that **you can** do anything you put your mind to, even and especially ALGEBRA!

Ms. Mitchener

mitches@gw.kirkwood.k12.mo.us

(314) 213-6100 x. 28209

Algebra Information Response Form

Student's Name _____ Team _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s) _____

Things you should know about my child:

Question(s) that I have:

The best way to reach me during the day is:

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this form. With support from both school and home your child can gain success in the study of Algebra. I am Please feel free to contact me with any concerns regarding your child's success throughout the year as I commit to doing the same so that we can best assist your child towards earning success in Algebra.

Ms. Mitchener