

Pre-Algebra

Disclosure Document

2011 - 2012

Mr. Gadd

Welcome to pre-algebra! I'm looking forward to another school year and am glad to have you in my class. I hope you will see your mathematical skills improve as you prepare to take more advanced classes in the future. I will do all I can to explain concepts clearly and provide you with the necessary practice to be successful in this course. I hope to provide a classroom where you will feel free to ask questions to increase your understanding. Please make sure you are familiar with the policies of this class so you will know what you need to do to achieve your goals.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course we will focus on four critical areas: (1) developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships; (2) developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; (3) solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; and (4) drawing inferences about populations based on samples.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Students must bring the following materials to class each day:

- Math book – Big Ideas Math
- Binder with standard size notebook paper
- Pencil with eraser (not pen)
- Red pencil or pen (for grading)
- Scientific calculator

GRADING POLICIES

1. ASSIGNMENTS -- Students should reserve 30-45 minutes each class period for independent study in pre-algebra. Daily assignments are listed on the chapter schedule. Late homework will be accepted for reduced credit **until the chapter test is given**. Assignments are not considered late if the student was absent, however they must be completed as described in the Assignment Policy document.
2. TESTS -- There will be 2-3 tests each quarter. Chapter tests may be re-taken to improve a poor score. However **no score over 80% will be recorded for a re-take**. If a test is retaken the second score will be recorded even if it is lower than the first score. If a student is absent on the review day (s)he will not be excused from taking the test on the regularly scheduled test day. Test results will be available the class period following the test day.
3. PREPARATION – Students must be prepared with required materials each class period. A score will be recorded each week that will reflect this effort. Dishonesty in reporting preparation will result in a “zero” score for the week.

Points earned divided by points possible will determine the student's average. The average will be applied to the grade scale to determine the term grade.

		87-89	B+	77-79	C+	67-69	D+		
93-100	A	83-86	B	73-76	C	63-66	D		
90-92	A-	80-82	B-	70-72	C-	60-62	D-	Below 60	F

There will be a limited amount of **extra credit** available throughout the quarter. There will be no special "emergency" assignments offered at the end of a grading period. If a student is desirous to earn extra credit points, (s)he must earn them as they become available throughout the term.

Please do not ask for exceptions to the grading policy. It is unfair to other students if requests for special extra credit or grade increases are honored.

No grading category will contribute in excess of 100% toward the final grade. This means that if there were 300 points available in a quarter for assignments and a student did extra credit to earn a total of 330 points the assignment category portion of the grade would be 100%, not 110%.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

ABSENCES: Consistent attendance is strongly encouraged. When an absence occurs it is the student's responsibility to complete missing assignments as described in the Assignment Policy document.

TARDIES: The school-wide tardy policy will be enforced in this class.

DISCIPLINE PLAN

ELECTRONIC DEVICES: These devices (**including cell phones, iPods, and laser pointers**) are not appropriate in the classroom. The cell phone/music player school policy will be enforced in this class.

CANDY, GUM, AND SODA: The custodial staff has requested that these items are not to be brought into, or consumed in the classroom.

Other discipline problems will be handled on an individual basis. Consistent offenders may be referred to the administration for disciplinary action.

INTERNET ACCESS

You can track your (or your student's) progress by accessing the Oak Canyon Junior High website. The address is www.oakcanyon.alpinedistrict.org.

Student Signature _____ **Parent Signature** _____