

# Algebra I Syllabus

Mrs. Nelson, Room 321

Mrs. Parrotta, Room 315

2017 – 2018 School Year

**Course Description:** This course includes the study of first and second-degree equations and inequalities (solving and graphing), relations and functions, systems of equations, irrational numbers, and exponential functions.

## Grading Percentages

Tests & Quizzes\* 70%

Homework 15%

Notebooks 15%

\* quizzes are weighted 50% of a test grade

## MCHS Grading Scale

100 – 93 A 92 – 90 A- 89 – 87 B+

86 – 83 B 82 – 80 B- 79 – 77 C+

76 – 73 C 72 – 70 C- 69 – 67 D+

66 – 63 D 62 – 60 D- 59 & below E

**Semester Grade:** The semester grade is comprised of 80% of the average of the two quarters and 20% of the final exam grade. Students overall GPA is calculated using semester grades, not quarters.

**Notebooks:** Notes will be assigned as homework. Students are expected to watch, listen, and write down all notes and examples completed in the recorded lesson. Notes will be graded on a daily basis on completion. Students that do not have completed notes at the beginning of the class will then use their class time to finish their notes prior to starting the daily assignments.

Students will receive:

- 3 points for completed, on-time notes
- 2 points for late, completed notes
- 0 points for incomplete notes

**Test & Quizzes:** It is the responsibility of the student to schedule a time to make-up a test or quiz. **Tests and quizzes must be completed within one week of the original test/quiz day to receive full credit.** Some tests and quizzes may not be made up in which case the next test or quiz will count as double. Testing retakes will be at the discretion of the teacher and are very seldom offered. **ALL** homework for the current chapter must be completed for a student to qualify for a retake. **All points will be lost if a student talks, looks at another's paper, or in any way GIVES or RECEIVES answers during tests and quizzes. All points will be lost if a cell phone or other electronic device is visible before, during, or after a test, whether or not the student was using the device.**

**Assignments:** It is imperative that **EVERY** assignment is completed to a satisfactory level. For a completed assignment, all the mathematical steps must be shown and/or a **written explanation** in how the problem was solved. An attempt needs to be made on **ALL** problems to be considered complete. Students will receive an incomplete grade for work that is missed, incomplete, or turned in late. Complete and incomplete assignments are determined at the discretion of the teacher.

If a student is absent, it is their responsibility to turn-in any assignments that were due the day of the absence and to receive the appropriate notes and assignments that were missed. The student has 1 day from the day returning for every day absent to complete their missing assignments. (Absent Monday, Due Wednesday - Prefer Tuesday ☺)

**Basic Assignment Guidelines:** Showing neat, organized, and detailed work is part of the mathematical process. The work shown demonstrates student's comprehension of the material while the answer tells me that the process is correct.

- Put your name, date, hour, and assignment in the upper right hand corner of your paper.
- Number problems as you go – do not pre-number.
- Write letters and numbers neatly.
- Work down the paper – not across. It's much easier to follow the reasoning this way. Work that is shown across the page instead of down **WILL NOT** be accepted as a completed assignment.

**Assignments will be scored as follows:**

- ★ = completed and on-time assignment, worth 5 points.
- = late or incomplete assignment, worth 0 points. **Must be completed!**
- ⊗ = a late or incomplete assignment that has now been completed, worth 3 points. Late assignments will only be accepted for credit **1 day late**.

**IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT NOTES ARE TAKEN AND ASSIGNMENTS ARE COMPLETED DAILY AND ON-TIME TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN ALGEBRA I.**

**Drop Lowest Quiz Grade:** As an incentive to complete notes and assignments on a daily basis, I will drop the lowest quiz each quarter for those students who have a **90% assignment average** and a **90% notebook average** at the end of each quarter. If dropping a lowest quiz grade will result in a lower score, a 5% test bonus will be rewarded instead.

### Required Materials

**Notebook** – A binder, folder, or spiral notebook to be used **only** for Algebra I. A 1-inch 3 ring binder with pockets is preferred.

- **Calculator** - Students should expect homework every night and will use a calculator frequently. A scientific calculator will be sufficient for most of the calculations. There will be times that I will be introducing the graphing calculator, however, these calculators will be provided. Students can use a graphing calculator instead of a scientific, however, there may be times during tests and quizzes that students will not be allowed to use their graphing calculators and I will provide a scientific calculator to those students at that time. Students will not be allowed to share calculators during class. This will be considered cheating during a test or quiz which will result in a zero for all students involved. **Cell phone calculators and the TI-89 Calculus graphing calculators are prohibited for use in Algebra I and will be treated as academic dishonesty if used.**

**Classroom Expectations:** It is my responsibility as your teacher to provide and maintain a safe and effective learning environment. My teaching style and delivery are structured around the following behavior guidelines:

**1. RESPECT** – I respect all my students and expect my students to respect each other, their school, and me. Listen quietly while someone in the class is speaking, teacher or student. During my lesson presentations I would like my students to remain seated until I am finished.

**2. PREPARATION** – Come to class prepared to learn and **on-time**. Bringing your notes, calculator, assignments, and writing utensils to class every day is the first step towards being prepared for class. Students must also be an active listener and participant to be successful in this class.

**3. FOCUS** – Be an active learner by taking notes before class, following instructions, and asking questions when necessary. Keep all unrelated materials away during class. When time is provided, I expect my students to use this time to work on their assignments.

**Electronic Device Policy:** The use of cell phones or other electronic devices in my classroom is not permitted unless stated by the teacher. Students will be allowed to take a picture of their book assignments during the last 3 minutes of class. During this time, all other functions of the electronic device are prohibited.

In addition to these three behavior guidelines, all school rules will apply in my classroom. See your Student Handbook for more information.

To the parent(s) or guardian(s) of my students:

Please take a few minutes to review my syllabus with your son or daughter. I am available to students for extra help **by appointment** after school until 3:00 p.m. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to call me at 676-1965 or Mrs. Parrotta at 676-1247. My conference time is 3<sup>rd</sup> hour and Mrs. Parrotta's conference time is 5<sup>th</sup> hour.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Jennifer Nelson  
Mrs. Dani Parrotta

## Support

To access online textbook and support materials:

Website: go to <http://connected.mcgraw-hill.com>  
login using the teacher provided username and password.

Mobile App: **McGraw-Hill ConnectED K-12**

login using the teacher provided username and password.

To access Note Video Files:

go to my website [jnelsonmath.weebly.com](http://jnelsonmath.weebly.com)

click on the Algebra I tab

click on the desired chapter of videos

click on the desired section of notes

Student can also access my note files directly through **YouTube**.

**remind**

**A** If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

[rmd.at/beckad6](http://rmd.at/beckad6)

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.

**B** If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message @beckad6 to the number 81010.

If you're having trouble with 81010, try texting @beckad6 to (810) 355-2217.

*\* Standard text message rates apply.*

The image shows two smartphone screens. The top screen displays the Remind app interface with the URL 'rmd.at/beckad6' at the top, followed by the heading 'Join Algebra I - 4th Hour'. Below this are two input fields: 'Full Name' with a placeholder 'First and Last Name', and 'Phone Number or Email Address' with a placeholder '(555) 555-5555'. The bottom screen shows a text message interface with 'To' set to '81010' and 'Message' set to '@beckad6'.

Don't have a mobile phone? Go to [rmd.at/beckad6](http://rmd.at/beckad6) on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications.