

**Algebra I**  
**Mrs. Bowers**

**Welcome to the 2011 Fall Semester!**

***Algebra I Course Description from NCDPI***

Algebra I continues the study of algebraic concepts learned in Math 8 or in Introduction to High School Math. It includes operations with polynomials and matrices, creation and application of linear relations and functions, algebraic representations of geometric relationships, and an introduction to nonlinear functions. Students will be expected to describe and translate among graphic, algebraic, numeric, tabular, and verbal representations of relations and use those representations to solve problems. Appropriate technology from manipulatives to graphing calculators should be used regularly for instruction and assessment.

***Materials Needed Daily***

- 3-ring binder (1" - 2")
- loose-leaf notebook paper
- pencils (NOT pens, we will erase frequently)
- dividers (there will be 10 units, so having 10 dividers may be helpful)
- completed homework assignment

***Classroom Items***

(If you have the opportunity to donate any of these items, it would be greatly appreciated.)

- kleenex
- colored pencils
- pencils
- hand sanitizer

***Calculators***

The TI-83/83+/84+ is the calculator that we will be using this year. It is an integral part of the Algebra 1 curriculum. In order for your child to be comfortable and efficient with the calculator, we strongly suggest that he/she purchase one for use at home and at school. Teachers will have calculators **for in school use only**. The NC EOC (end of course) test in Algebra 1 assumes that all students are proficient with this technology. Although these calculators are expensive, students will be able to use them during their entire high school career. Shop around for the best price in your local office supply stores or on-line. If you purchase a calculator, ***please bring me the UPC scan bar***. TI has a proof-of-purchase program for schools that will exchange UPC labels for free equipment and/or software.



## ***Classroom Policies and Rules***

1. Respect yourself, others and school property.
2. No food or drink is allowed in the classroom. (school rule)
3. Be in your seats ready to work when the bell rings. This means that your pencil should be sharpened, your homework out, and you are beginning to work on the warm up activity.
4. **NO CELL PHONE USE INCLUDING TEXTING!** This is a school rule. If you are using a cell phone during class we are required to write you up on a long form and you must face the consequences of a long form write-up.
5. Cheating will not be tolerated. Anyone who is caught cheating will be given a zero, regardless of if it is on a test, quiz, or homework.

## ***Make-Up Procedures***

After an absence, it is **YOUR** responsibility to get your make-up work from the make-up folder. If you are absent on a test/quiz day, you are responsible for making up the test/quiz. See me to schedule a time that fits both of our schedules, before the next test.

## ***Tutoring***

I will be available for tutoring on Tuesday afternoons (3:50-4:30) and Thursday mornings (8:00-8:30). If neither of these times work for you, please make an appointment for another time at least a day in advance to be sure I am available.

## ***Grading Practices***

A test is your opportunity to show that you have mastered each objective in the unit. In order to master each objective, it is imperative that you practice the skill by completing all daily class work/homework assignments.

## ***Grading***

Tests	50%
Quizzes	35%
Homework*	15%

\*Homework will be assigned and checked DAILY.

## ***Algebra 1 Curriculum***

Solving Complex Equations and Inequalities	Graphing Linear Equations
Matrices	Systems of Equations
Polynomials	Factoring
Radicals and Irrational Numbers	Quadratic Equations
Relations and Functions	Exponential Functions

Review for End-of-Course Test

**North Carolina requires that a student pass the EOC and the course to receive credit for this course.**

**\*\* The North Carolina Standard Course of Study for Algebra 1 guides our curriculum.**

## A Special Note to Students and Parents/Guardians:

The skills in Algebra 1 are very sequential. It is imperative that students have mastery of each objective to proceed to subsequent topics. I will do everything I can to help your child be successful. Your help is needed in three areas: ***attendance, homework and parental support.***

- 1) **Attendance is crucial** in every subject but is vital to the learning process in math. I urge you as parents to do everything you can do to assure your child is in math class every day. The block schedule that we will use this year moves quickly and your child will miss many objectives after a single absence. Only three absences are allowed per nine weeks!!
- 2) **Homework is a requirement in this course, not an option.** Students cannot be successful without practice. Expect your child to spend 30 to 45 minutes on math each night.
- 3) If possible, please e-mail me so that I have your e-mail address on file. Please include your child's name in the message.

If you would like to discuss your child's progress, please feel free to call me at school or e-mail me. You can reach me during my planning time, before or after school given the following information. I welcome the chance to meet you and work with you to make this a successful year for your child. By signing and returning the portion of this document below, you acknowledge receiving and reading the information provided on the previous pages.

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Phone: 919-732-6133 ext. 20505  
Room: # 402  
Planning: 1<sup>st</sup> block (8:45 – 10:10)  
Website: hilarybowers.wikispaces.com

**\*\*Please take the time to visit my website (hilarybowers.wikispaces.com) and fill out the Information Form so that I can be sure I have your accurate contact information.**

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(Please return this portion)    Period: \_\_\_\_\_    Mrs. Bowers    Algebra I

Student Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number where the parent can be reached during school hours \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's E-mail address if available \_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything that you feel I need to know about your child to ensure his/her success in Algebra I?