Welcome to Algebra 1

Course Description:

This class is a freshman level mathematics class. Algebra 1 is the gateway to all higher mathematics, and an essential part of your future education. The skills and concepts you learn this year will help you think logically, problem-solve, recognize relationships and patterns, and represent verbal situations as equations, both in mathematics and in other subjects.

Materials:

- A basic calculator will suffice, and each student will use desmos.com for their graphing calculator needs. If you wish to purchase a graphing calculator I recommend you check with your child’s future high school as to which calculator they require for freshman students. Most high schools now require the TI-Inspire.
- Additional Supplies Needed
  - Pencils
  - Notebook for notes and work
  - Graph paper (supplied but never hurts to have your own)
  - Straight Edge (ruler, or bottom of a protractor, it will help greatly with graphing)

Class Structure:

Students have the opportunity to have this class follow the flipped mastery concept will allow students to demonstrate mastery of all concepts and progress at their own pace, while allowing Mr. Schultz to give more individualized instruction to each student. If a student is not working under the flipped mastery concept, the structure will be more group lead instruction.

How It Works

1) Students will watch videos at home(www.jhschultz.weebly.com) and take notes in the format given on the next page.

2) Students will complete practice problems in class(workbook problems evens or odds and all word problems) and check their answers(also available online if the students wish to check work at home). During this time Mr. Schultz will give a short lecture and complete a few example problems to help with the overall grasping of the concepts. The rest of the time Mr. Schultz will be going around the classroom giving individualized help.

3) Students who are outpacing Mr. Schultz will take a Lesson Check. A Lesson Check, three questions from the lesson. The student will go through the answers with Mr. Schultz to demonstrate their knowledge of the lesson. Once Mr. Schultz believes the student has the concept down, they will move onto the next lesson.

4) Students will take 3 quizzes each chapter. Students pacing ahead of Mr. Schultz must score 75% or above to move onto next lesson. The class period after the quiz is taken, students will go through their
quiz results with Mr. Schultz to make sure errors are understood and an instructional plan is set by the teacher.

5) Students take a Test at the end of each chapter. Students pacing ahead of Mr. Schultz must score 80% or above on the test to move onto the next chapter. The class period after the test is taken, students will go through their tests with Mr. Schultz.

6) At the end of the year students will take a final exam over the topics they’ve covered during the year. If students do not meet the required score on a quiz or test, additional practice in the areas of need will be assigned and checked. Once the student feels they have mastered that area they will then take a new application check or mastery assessment to move on.

Pacing

This is very much an individualized experience for each student. If the student has a solid grasp of the concepts and wants to do numerous lessons in one day, they’re more then welcome to do that. If the student doesn’t feel comfortable with a concept, and needs to spend two days on the concept, that is acceptable as well. The key component is getting each student to take responsibility for their work, to assess themselves, and seek assistance if it is needed to master concepts.

Mr. Schultz will be leading a group at a baseline pace, so if a student starts off the year in a flipped mastery concept but Mr. Schultz’s group catches them, the student will become a part of Mr. Schultz’s group. This will help to ensure that every student covers an appropriate amount of content during the year, while providing other students the opportunity to work at a faster pace.

Assessments:

- Each Chapter
  - Each lesson will have a Lesson Check
  - 3 Quizzes
  - 1 Test
  - 1 Cumulative Review (quiz grade, take home, open book, open notes)
  - 1 Extra Credit opportunity (Problem Solving page in workbook)

- Final Grade
  - Each Semester 30%
  - Final Exam 10%

Grades:

- Preparation: 10% (Brings all materials, using time wisely in class)
- Quizzes: 40%
- Tests: 50%

Teacher Expectations:

- Participate!!!!!!!
  - Ask Questions
- Respect your peers and their efforts
  - Encourage and help
  - No Putdowns!!!
• Each student does their own work
• Take notes on videos
• Show your work on all homework, quizzes, and tests.
• Complete review work prior to review
• Use review work as a study tool for your tests
• Give it your best shot!!

Notes Guidelines:

1) Write the title of each lesson
2) Write the vocabulary words from the section
3) Copy the examples from the videos

Example:

Lesson 1-1 Rational and Irrational Numbers

Vocab: (this will come from the text book or the video)
   Rational Number- the quotient of 2 integers a and b, written a/b with b≠0
   Terminating Decimals- such as 0.41, 3.0, -5.7, have a finite number of digits
Etc..........

Examples: (from the videos)

-321.11 rational number

45 whole number, integer, rational number

Etc.......