

## **8<sup>th</sup> grade Algebra Syllabus**

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Students have access to google classroom where handouts and daily work is posted.

### **Algebra 1 Course Description** (placement determined by school personnel)

The Honors Algebra curriculum is designed to mirror the high school Algebra 1 course. A student must test into or have had the advanced mathematics sequence in 6<sup>th</sup> and/or 7<sup>th</sup> grade. The difference between this course and Math 8 is that this course is considered an “honors” course so the pacing is faster, we do more application/extension problems, and students must maintain a B- or better to remain in the course. The course uses Big Ideas Mathematics curriculum Algebra 1. More information can be found on [www.bigideasmath.com](http://www.bigideasmath.com) This course will appear on students’ high school transcript.

### **Classroom Instruction and group work:**

Students will work in collaborative groups on a regular basis and approach problems visually and conceptually. The only way students will master the concepts is by being actively involved in their learning. As the teacher, I will be responsible for guiding, supporting, and facilitating summarization and connections.

### **Parent Involvement**

Parents, the following suggestions will help students be successful and have a positive experience.

- Encourage and support risk taking on homework and while working in groups.
- Talk on a regular basis about the concepts being taught.
- Read and discuss the student Interactive **Math Notebook** (IMN).
- Encourage the student to use their IMN as a reference.
- Create an atmosphere at home where there is a designated study space and study time.
- Be open to math groups working together at homes in evenings and weekends.
- Offer help with homework and suggest that students get help at school when necessary.
- If your student needs help, start by asking them to read the problem out loud.

## Classroom Supplies

- Book cover (XL or Jumbo) or bring in a paper bag
- 1-pack 4-AAA batteries (**to be given to teacher the first weeks of school**)
- 1-5 subject notebook (prefer Five Star with pocket dividers; for Algebra class only)
- Pencils, eraser, and pen
- 1 pkg Graph paper (100 sheets;  $\frac{1}{4}$ " )
- 2 dry erase markers
- Dry eraser (for dry erase boards or 1 old (but clean) sock)
- Calculator- TI-84+ silver (If you have a different graphing calculator, students may use it this year.)

## Assignments

### Interactive Math Notebook (IMN)

- Needed and used DAILY in class. The purpose is to help students learn and remember important mathematical concepts. The interactive part is the use of the LEFT side of the notebook to react, reflect, organize, and interpret what is on the RIGHT side.
- Notebook will be set up in class.
- Each entry will have a title and date. Each entry should be recorded in the table of contents, and every page will be completed and organized. Rubric will be posted in the cover of the notebook.
- Will be assessed periodically.

### Risk Free Practice Assignments

- **Homework** (AKA Practice Assignment) is assigned 4-5 days per week. These assignments are to be done in the Interactive Math Notebook (IMN). Daily homework is self-corrected by the student, stamped by teacher at start of class (when on time), and the basis for class discussions. Students will have an opportunity to ask questions. Periodically students will use their IMN to complete a homework quiz.
- Risk Free Practice must be completed in PENCIL. All work is to be shown for all problems and will be done starting in the back of the IMN.
- If you are absent on the day an assignment is given, you have one day for each day absent to make up the assignment. Any homework due the day of your absence must be handed in the day you return.
- It is the **responsibility of the student** to get the correct assignments, class notes, and help with assignments if s/he has missed class (including band lessons or other in-school obligations).

## Review Assignments

- These assignments are usually WS, collected and corrected by the teacher and graded for accuracy.
- Students may use their IMN as a reference.
- IXL.com will be assigned and used throughout the year to review and practice concepts and skills. It is counted as a quiz grade.
- These assignments are given after a topic/concept/unit has been taught and students should be comfortable with the material. **It is important for a student to seek help from the teacher if they are struggling to complete this assignment independently.**

## Grading:

Grades will be given at the end of each quarter. Grades will be updated weekly online at: <https://ps.greendale.k12.wi.us/public/> Please check student grades online regularly.

## Tests, Quizzes, Extra Credit

- **Tests and quizzes** are announced a few days ahead of time and are noted on the chapter syllabus.
- **IXL.com** will be used as a review quiz covering current concepts and previously learned concepts
- **Quiz and Test corrections will NOT raise your grade.** Corrections are expected but are counted as a homework assignment with the emphasis on student showing mastery with the questions and identifying where the mistake(s) were made.
- **Reassessment** is allowed **ONLY** if all homework assignments are completed prior to the initial assessment. Students will need to meet with the teacher to go over the corrections and then set up a mutually agreeable time to reassess. This process is usually done within two weeks after the test has been returned.

## **Cheating and Academic Misconduct**

Students need to do be responsible for their work and the learning that is gained. If a student demonstrates academic dishonesty (plagiarism/copying-from another student or source, cheating), he or she will receive a zero on the entire assignment. On the first offense, he/she will have the opportunity to revise the assignment for 50% of the grade, instead of the zero. On the second offense, the zero will stay in the gradebook.

If a student participates in academic dishonesty by ALLOWING another student to copy his/her work, he/she will also face consequences including a lunch detention for the first offense and, on the second offense, a zero on his/her own assignment.

Please note: a first offense may be one class (i.e. English), a second offense in another class (i.e. Science). The teachers of Team Inspire will track any academic dishonesty issues. These academic dishonesty policies apply in all core classes.

## **Extra Help is available!**

During 5<sup>th</sup> hour resource time, students may come in for help. This could be one question or the need for reteaching. Please advocate for yourself earlier rather than later! After school help is also available by appointment (ask your teacher).

## **Grades**

Each piece of work has a point value:

Big Ideas assignments (scored out of 10 points based on percentage earned); work must be shown in IMN

- IXL 6/5 pts 100% smartscore
- 5/5 90-99%
- 4/5 80-89%
- 3.5/5 70-79%
- Seek help early in the week if you are unable to earn 70% smartscore independently

Semester Exams (2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter) count as one test grade. No retake offered.

**Honors Algebra Policy:** Students need to maintain a B- average in algebra. If students end any quarter below 80%, they are placed on “watch” or “probation”. If students end up with any 2 quarters on watch, they will be recommended to retake algebra in high school.

**Grades are weighted as follows:**

	% of weight
Assignments	10
Quiz	15
Test	75

**Mathematics Grading Scale**

	93-100			80-82			67-69
	90-92			77-79			63-66
	87-89			73-76			60-62
	83-86			70-72			0-59

