

Foundations of Algebra Syllabus JCHS is a fountain of knowledge – don't leave thirsty!

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Materials Needed Daily: 3-ring notebook, pencils, paper, calculator

Students may also find it helpful to have a ruler, protractor, markers, or colored pencils at home, and access to the internet.

Course Description: Foundations of Algebra will provide many opportunities to revisit and expand the understanding of foundational algebra concepts, employ diagnostic means to offer focused interventions, and incorporate varied instructional strategies to prepare students for required high school courses. The course will emphasize both algebra and numeracy in a variety of contexts including number sense, proportional reasoning, quantitative reasoning with functions, and solving equations and inequalities.

Opportunities for Extra Help: After school tutorial will be available throughout the school year. As the schedule is set you will see more information.

Instructional Activities: Instruction for the course will be provided through group work, individual work, demonstration, and the use of technology such as iPads and computers. In order to become proficient in mathematics, students should expect to struggle productively. Through investigations, students will develop conceptual understanding of mathematical concepts.

The Standards for Mathematical practice are:

- MP.1** Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- MP.2** Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
- MP.3** Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
- MP.4** Model with mathematics.
- MP.5** Use appropriate tools strategically.
- MP.6** Attend to precision in all things.
- MP.7** Look for and make use of structure.
- MP.8** Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

Assessments: Assessment of student progress will consist of quizzes, tests, progressive skills and culminating activities. Formative assessments will be used by students and teachers to determine progress towards meeting the standards. Formative assessments may or may not appear in Power Teacher but will NOT be included in the grade calculation. Summative assessments are given after content has been learned to evaluate standard mastery. Summative assessments will be the grades recorded in Power Teacher to calculate course average.

Grading Policies:

- EFFORT is the most important component
- Grades are calculated using the following percentages:
Standards Mastery: 60%
Classwork: 20%
Nine Weeks Exam: 20%

(Note: This course does not have a Georgia Milestone Assessment.)

Teacher Responsibilities:

- To treat each student with respect
- To provide each student with an orderly classroom environment
- To provide the necessary discipline
- To provide the appropriate motivation
- To teach students using research based teaching strategies incorporated with task based learning

Student Responsibilities: Research has shown that those who do the work are the ones that are learning. Therefore, all students are expected to take an active role, **assuming responsibility for their own learning**, by doing each of the following:

- bring all materials to class daily – notebook, paper, and pencil
- participate fully on a daily basis
- complete all assignments on time, attempting every problem assigned
- never turn in work that is not your own
- keep material organized in their notebook and bring it to class daily
- be in class regularly – if you are absent for any reason, it is your responsibility to meet with your teacher about missing assignments
- contribute to class, cooperate in group activities
- take care of all supplies and leave the work area clean
- be in your seat ready to work when the tardy bell rings
- seek extra help when needed
- to treat teacher and classmates with respect

General Classroom Operating Procedures:

- enter the room quietly and begin on the opening activity
- wait for teacher to dismiss you at the end of class
- anytime a student leaves the room they will have a pass in their agenda and have signed out or back in to the classroom log in/out book – students are expected to take care of locker visits, restroom, and other personal items between class
- JCHS rules are to be followed at all times

Consequences: If a student fails to honor their responsibility, the student will be subject to consequences. Academic consequences follow naturally as irresponsibility in this area generally leads to lower grades.

Behavioral consequences include the following:

- warning
- 30 seconds after class
- 60 seconds after class
- parent contact / email to advisor and/or coaches
- office referral

Serious disruptions of the learning environment, including disrespect, harassment, fighting, etc., may result in immediate referral and/or removal from the classroom.

