Welcome to Pre-Algebra! Pre-Algebra is considered to be the bridge between elementary and secondary mathematics. Because this is a transition period for you in mathematics, we will be reviewing necessary concepts and then building upon them. This course is designed to prepare you for Algebra 1 as well as meet all of the Pennsylvania $6^{\text {th }}$ Grade Math Standards. When you do not understand a concept, get help immediately. I am excited to have you this year and look forward to working with you to make this experience fun and educational. Below, you will find my expectations, requirements and other useful information. Please check out my website for useful information that I will post throughout the year!

## CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

1. Be on time- Please have all required materials for class and be in your seat before the bell rings.
2. Be prepared-You must have your binder, book, assignment journal, a sharpened pencil, and your calculator.
3. Be polite- Practice good manners. Raise your hand to speak. Above all, treat others as you would like them to treat you.
4. Be respectful - Respect yourself. Respect others and their property.
5. WAIT FOR ME TO DISMISS YOU FROM CLASS!!!!

## ****On the fourth day that a student is unprepared, late or needs to go to their locker for any reason, that student will be assigned a lunch detention.****

## DAILY CLASS PROCEDURES

1. Get ready- sharpen/borrow pencils, refill binder with notebook paper, copy missed assignments in journal
2. Copy assignment journal entry from board.
3. Copy the date and problems from the board in COMPOSITION BOOK and begin solving the problems.
4. Have your homework out on your desk ready to be checked.
5. Discuss homework/ WARM UP problems
6. Lesson/Notes
7. Practice problems/ homework
8. End of lesson - questions and begin working on homework

## REQUIRED MATERIALS FOR CLASS:

- Book cover

- Three-ring binder- 1 inch wide
- One subject spiral notebook or loose leaf paper for notes
- PENCILS
- Scientific calculator - preferably TI30XIIs. You should buy one as soon as possible, if you do not already own one. Loaners are available, but MUST be SIGNED OUT at the beginning of the period or you will have to do without. You are not permitted to share calculators during a test or quiz.
- Assignment journal- You are expected to copy the daily journal entry and all grades in the grade record sheet. I will spot check this every nine weeks.


## HOMEWORK

It is an absolute must for you to complete ALL homework. Homework is assigned so that you can practice the new skills you learned that day. If you do not practice, you will NOT succeed. When completing your homework, put your name, date and lesson section in the top right hand margin. A homework paper with just answers does not show that you have made an attempt and will get you ZERO points. Create two columns by folding your paper in half lengthwise. Beginning in the left column, you will copy the problem and put the work along with the answer to the first assigned problem. Working down the left column, you will skip a space and complete the next assigned problem until you run out of room. Proceed to the right hand column and continue working as explained.

## ORGANIZATION/BINDER REQUIREMENTS

YOU are responsible for maintaining an organizational system that allows you to easily refer to papers/notes throughout the year. You are required to keep the following items in a MATH ONLY BINDER. (NO TRAPPERS!!!)

- Daily warm-ups (provided by me) will be given to review concepts
- Guided notes that will be given to you for each lesson
- A section of loose leaf paper for your completed homework (labeled with your name, date and section \#)

Your organization/binder will be graded once every nine weeks based on content and organization (approximately 20-30 points)

## ORGANIZATION CHECKLIST

Warm-up Sheets - date, problem, and solution; collected EACH nine weeks
GUIDED NOTES- date and all notes completed as presented in class
HOMEWORK SECTION- in order by section; collected at the end of each chapter

## CONTENT

I will ask various questions from your notebooks. These questions will be very easy if you keep an organized notebook. For example, I may ask you a definition that can be simply copied from your notes. I may also ask you to tell me the date we discussed a specific topic. I will also ask you questions that can be answered from your assignment journal.

## GRADING

Grades will be based on total points. The following assessments will be the primary ways you will earn your grade: tests (80-100 pts.), quizzes ( $20-30$ pts.), homework ( 2 or 3 pts. based on completion), organization/participation (binder and assignment journal upkeep 20-30 points), and graded homework ( $20-30 \mathrm{pts}$ ). By the end of the nine weeks period, there will be approximately 500600 points. Extra credit will not be given.

## CHEATING

I consider all of the following cheating:

- Copying homework
- Using your friends homework as your own
- Looking at your neighbor's paper
- Passing notes/calculators during a quiz or test

If you are being dishonest about what you know or what you can do or what you did, more than likely you have cheated. Always be honest and true to yourself, to your parents and to me. Please refer to your assignment journal for the school district's policy on cheating.

## TUTORING

There are many opportunities for you to get extra help. Please take advantage of as many of these as you can throughout the course of the year.

- Extra practice worksheets
- Practice tests-available upon request
- AM tutoring in Room 221
- PM tutoring -available upon request if you know in advance
- Work the odd problems in the book and check them with the back of the book.

