

Timpanogos High School

Disclosure Document

Elementary Algebra

Mr. Jackson

Dear Student and Parents,

I am excited to be here as your teacher, and look forward to working with you through this school year. I am confident it will be a positive experience for each of us. Here are some guidelines and information to make it successful.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OUTLINE

Elementary Algebra is about using algebra to model relationships in our real world. We will deal with lots of hands-on experiences and applications of algebra to real situations. We study the properties of the real number system and use these properties to solve linear equations and inequalities. We will become very good at manipulating algebraic expressions and equations. In addition, great emphasis will be placed on conceptual understanding of algebra as a means of representation and as a problem-solving tool.

Technology and manipulatives are used to explore these ideas. As such, each student must have a scientific calculator they can bring to class and use at home. We recommend the Texas Instrument TI-30X scientific calculator; it is inexpensive, easy to use, and matches the calculator we will use in class.

HOMEWORK

Expect assignments, labs, and or homework each class day. These daily assignments are the most important part of your learning, like it or not. You must learn the material, and so you must practice. Assignments must be turned in on time for full credit. Partial credit (pro-rated) will be given for late work up to five days past due.

GRADING

Grades will be based on scores from:	1. Assignments & labs	35%
	3. Quizzes	25%
	4. Tests.	40%

My goal is for all students to achieve success in this and future math courses. To achieve success the Timpanogos High School Math Department has set a minimum competence level of 70%.

A 93 - 100 %	B+ 87 - 89 %	C+ 77 - 79 %	F 69 % and below
A- 90 - 92 %	B 83 - 86 %	C 73 - 76 %	
	B- 80 - 82 %	C- 70 - 72 %	

Note: If, during the first three terms a student's percentage is 65 - 69, for one term only the failing grade will be replaced with a "D-" if a grade of "C" or better is earned in the following term.

You can assure success in this class by following the learning suggestions outlined in the PLAN you will receive in class. Outside help is available before (7:15-7:54 AM) or after school (2:15-3:15 PM) almost every day. Please check with me before you come. Ask for the help you need to succeed. There are lots of good resources at our Algebra 1 web site. Be sure to check them out as soon as possible. Grade reports will be posted periodically during the term in class and are available daily at the Powerschool web site (<http://205.118.65.5/public>). Your student login and password are available by calling THS Counseling at 223-3132.

ATTENDANCE AND TARDY POLICY

Your success in Algebra is directly tied to your attendance. Rule of thumb: don't be late, and don't be absent. Punctuality is important for your success in school and in life. Tardiness and absenteeism show a lack of respect and dedication. Based upon the Timpanogos High School Attendance policy, missed work can only be made up for excused absences or tardies. In addition, no grade or credit for the class is awarded if there are unexcused or unexcused absences or tardies. See the THS Attendance Policy for details.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR AND DISCIPLINE

In the classroom it is my responsibility to teach and as a student I feel your responsibility is to learn. As such, I will not allow any student to stop me from teaching, nor any student to stop another from learning. Nor will I allow any student to engage in behavior that is not in his best interest or the best interest of others. Listed below are three classroom rules we must have to achieve our purposes here.

1. Follow directions the first time.
2. Talk when appropriate. Listen while another is speaking. When working on an assignment, if I can hear your voice, it's too loud.
3. No food or drink in class.

If you choose not to follow one of these rules the following consequences will occur.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <i>1st time (name on board)</i> | <i>= warning</i> |
| <i>2nd time (check by name)</i> | <i>= stay after class 58 seconds.</i> |
| <i>3rd time (2 checks by name)</i> | <i>= the above and stay after school the next day 5 minutes.</i> |
| <i>4th time (3 checks by name)</i> | <i>= each of the above and a call to parents.</i> |
| <i>5th time (4 checks by name)</i> | <i>= each of the above and a visit with principal.</i> |

In addition, should a student's behavior be severe, he or she will be immediately removed from the classroom and dealt with by the principal. Such behavior might be willfully inflicting physical harm, destroying property, overtly refusing to do what told, or any behavior that stops the whole class from its duties.

Along with all these negative consequences a focus on positive behavior will be emphasized. In other words, a student will be rewarded for behavior that contributes to the success of our class. Anytime I may compliment you personally, send a positive note or call to your parents, or raise a score in the grade book.

Cell Phones, MP3's and Other Electronic Equipment

These are not allowed in the classroom. Their use distracts you and others from learning. If they are seen or used during class they will be confiscated and delivered to the principal's office at a convenient time. The owner's parent may pick it up from the principal's office.

As a teacher, I am very serious about our purpose here in the classroom. I expect you as a student to take this responsibility seriously as well.

CONCLUSION

Now, if you can still smile after reading all this, please do so and we'll have an enjoyable year together. Attached is an informational and signature form for both the student and parents to sign and return to class. If you have any questions or concerns about any of these policies, please contact me immediately (223-3120, ext 136, Jacks786@alpine.k12.ut.us). Thanks for joining us in Algebra.

Mr. Jackson

Student Name _____

Class _____

Period _____

Please complete, sign, and return this form:

What grade in Algebra would you like to earn this year? _____

Full Name of Parent or Guardian: _____

Current Mailing Address (Please include zip-code):

Home Telephone Number: _____

Work Telephone Number: _____

Parents' E-Mail Address: _____

I have read Mr. Jackson's disclosure document and agree to abide by the rules and policies.

Signature of Student: _____

Signature of Parent: _____

