

2025

Algebra I

2025

Room: 200J

Mr. Cieslak

Email:
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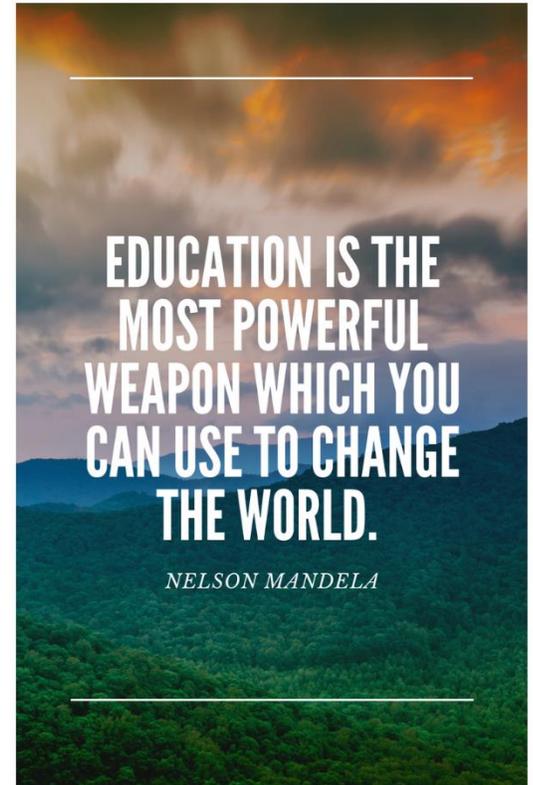
What do I need to bring to class every day?

- Positivity
- Writing Utensil
- Folder
- Charged iPad and Pen
- Optional 3 ring binder

Course Objectives

Upon completion of **Semester 1** of Algebra I, students will have a working understanding of the following concepts:

- Linear equations, inequalities, and absolute value
- Using and modeling linear relationships
- Graphing and writing linear, quadratic, and exponential functions
- Using and solving systems of equations and inequalities
- The laws of exponents
- Using, writing, and simplifying rational exponents, and radicals



What are the expectations for ALL?

- Be **respectful**. Treat yourself, your classmates, the teacher and the school with respect.
- Show **responsibility**. Come to class on time, homework completed, ready with all materials and a positive attitude.
- Accept the challenge of **rigor**. Be an active learner even if the work is difficult. It's ok to not know, it is not ok to not try.
- Build **relationships**. We are a classroom community. We will struggle together and celebrate together. Be kind and helpful to each other.

Cheating: Any violation of the Integrity Policy outlined in the student handbook will result in a 0 grade for that assignment or test. You will **not** have an opportunity to earn those points back. If you feel too stressed about an upcoming test and begin to think about cheating, please come talk to me and we will work together to get you caught up.

Cell Phone and Earbud Use: Out of sight, out of use

- Cell phones and smart watches **must** be stored in a closed back pack or left at home or in your car. No exceptions.
- Earbuds are not allowed.

iPad use: Bring your charged iPad each day. Most notes and homework will be done on paper. If a student prefers to take them on OneNote this may be allowed.

Late Work: Assignments that are turned in late can still receive reduced credit of 80% until the day of the test. Any assignment that is turned in after the corresponding unit test cannot be turned in for credit.

Missed Work/Makeup Work: You are responsible for completing any work that you were absent for. Videos for each day's lesson will be uploaded to schoology by the end of the day. Homework for the day can be found on OneNote. If you are struggling to learn the material on your own, you need to make arrangements with me to get caught up.

- *Excused absences:* If you are not present in class due to an excused absence (illness or family emergency) on the day of a test or when an assignment is due, you need to be prepared to turn the work in on the day you return to school. If you know you will be gone in advance, make arrangements with me prior to your absence.
- *Unexcused absences:* Missed work, as the result of an unexcused absence will result in a 0. Absences on test days may result in taking the test before or after school, or during your study hall.
- If you miss 10 class periods, you might not receive credit for this class. See the WFHS student handbook for details.

Tardiness: A tardy is any situation in which you arrive to class late or unprepared. 5 unexcused tardies will result in a UV. If you are 20 minutes late, you will be marked UV.

Oppressive Language: The words we use are powerful. We must choose them wisely and make sure they are not used to put one another down or turn someone's identity into an insult. Inappropriate language will not be tolerated and can result in a Pack Referral, detention and meeting with a principal.

Start of Class: Enter class quickly and quietly. Each day, you will begin class by completing a starter problem and showing my the previous days notes.

Food and Drink: Drinks with a non-spill lid are allowed in class. Other beverages and food are not allowed. Do not make a mess! I do not have time to clean up after you. Be respectful of this shared space.

End of Class: Just like the bell doesn't start class, the bell does not end class. I will give you permission to pack up your belongings and materials. Desk space and any mess made must be cleaned. If you borrowed something from me, RETURN IT. Thank you.

Leaving the Room: If you need to leave the room for ANY reason, make an e-hall pass. Only one person is allowed to leave the room at a time.

Before you speak:

THINK

T = Is it True?

H = Is it Helpful?

I = Is it Inspiring?

N = Is it Necessary?

K = Is it Kind?

What are the expectations for Mr. Cieslak?

As your teacher, you should expect me to:

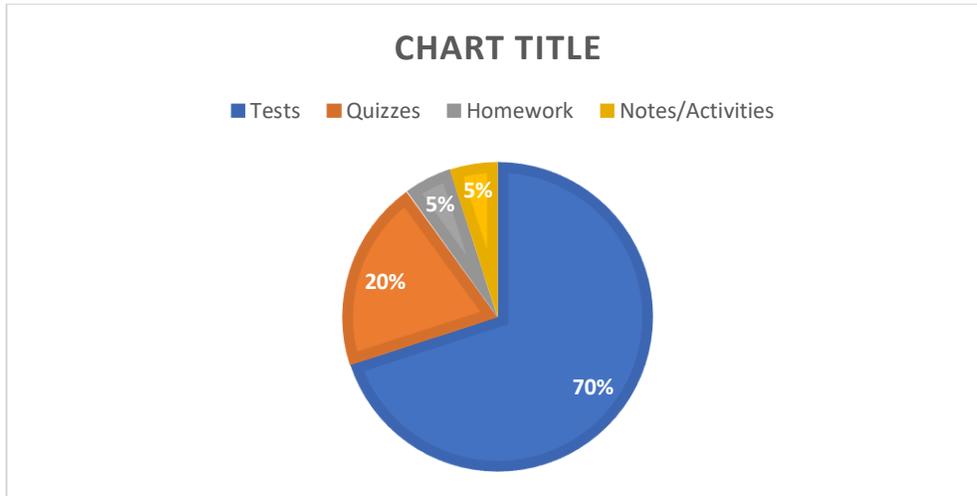
- Do all that I can to ensure your success in our class
 - Treat you respectfully and fairly at all times
 - Lecture as LITTLE AS POSSIBLE unless ABSOLUTELY necessary
 - Return graded assignments within one week
 - Learn *from* you and *about* you
 - Not let you "slack off" and hold you to HIGH expectations because YOU ARE THAT GOOD.
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How do I check my grades or get missed work?

All lesson plans and materials (notes, homework, etc.) can be found on **Schoology**. You will log into Schoology regularly to check lesson plans, get missed assignments, watch videos, participate in class discussions, and much more. We will discuss using Schoology more in class.

How is my grade calculated?

Grades are **weighted by category**, meaning some points are worth more than others. **Tests** are a large part of your grade. This is a math department policy for Algebra I.



A	90% - 100%
B	80% - 89%
C	70% - 79%
D	60% - 69%
F	0% - 59%

Homework:

- Practice problems: Practice problems are graded on **completion**. All answer keys are posted on Schoology. The intent is for you to **check your work as you're completing it** so that you know whether or not you're on the right track. Homework is PRACTICE and should be treated as such. Homework is due the next class period from when it is assigned. There will be occasional assignments that, if not completed in class, will have more specific due dates prior to the test. If you use our class time wisely, you will RARELY have homework to complete at home.

Notes/Activities:

- You will receive points for taking notes and participating in class activities and board practice. In order to receive credit, you must take all the notes that I cover in class and be engaged during board practice and activities.

Quizzes: We will typically quiz 1-2 times per chapter. These quizzes are a GREAT RESOURCE for studying for tests.

Tests: Tests are LARGE part of your grade. It is important that you do your best to prepare. There will be three unit tests per quarter. Test retakes are not allowed (math department policy).

Cumulative Tests: There will be a cumulative test at the end of each quarter calculated within your test category. The cumulative test will be averaged with and replace your lowest test score.

- Unit 1: 17.5% of your grade
- Unit 2: 17.5% of your grade
- Unit 3: 17.5% of your grade
- Quarter 1 cumulative: 17.5% of your grade.

What if I have questions or need help?

Please contact me! I am here to help.

You may reach me by email at jcieslak@west-fargo.k12.nd.us You can expect me to respond to emails Monday-Friday from 8:00am - 4:00pm.