

College Algebra Classroom Policies

2008-2009

www.phsmath.org

1. Assignments

It is very important that you practice math skills daily. You must take full responsibility for your own learning. Not only must you do your assignment each day, but you must do each assignment correctly. The problem sets in the Saxon textbook are designed for you to continually practice problems from the beginning to the end. People who work each and every problem will have more success on tests and future classes. To become better problem solvers, we will be looking at the process as well as the final answer. Therefore, showing your steps is imperative. You can expect 4 assignments per week. Each assignment will be due the next class day. You will earn 30 points (1 point for each problem) for each assignment that has all problems completed and demonstrates the following criteria;

How to earn 30 points:

- 1] Heading must include your name, problem set number, and problem numbers.
- 2] Each problem must have at least one blank line underneath and beside before beginning the next problem.
- 3] Copy the problem. If it is a word problem – state the important information.
- 4] Sketch any pictures that are drawn or described.
- 5] If the problem requires a formula – write it down.
- 6] Solve the problem vertically – not sideways. Show all work. Just an answer is unacceptable.
- 7] Indicate your answer by putting a box around your answer. This shows that you actually solved the problem.
- 8] Use a pencil, or blue or black ink. No more pink or red or purple ink.
- 9] Problems should be done sequentially. Do not skip around.
- 10] Odd answers are available in the back of your book. Even answers are available on the web. You are responsible to check your answers each night in order to ask questions in class the next day.

2. Tests

Tests will be given approximately every six lessons. Tests will consist of either 10 or 20 questions. The types of questions can be multiple choice, free response, calculator, and non-calculator problems. Showing work will be required on every type of problem. The 20 questions tests will be worth 100 points, and the 10 questions tests will be worth 50 points.

3. Grades

<u>Quarter:</u>	70% Tests and Quizzes	<u>Semester:</u>	20% Semester Final
	30% Assignments		40% 1 st Quarter
			40% 2 nd Quarter

<u>Quarter and Semester Grading Scale:</u>	A = 90.00% - 100%	B = 80.00% - 89.99%
	C = 70.00% - 79.99%	D = 60.00% - 69.99%
	F = 0.00% - 59.99%	

4. Supplies, Preparation, Notebook and Attendance:

You are required to bring your covered textbook, paper, pencil, and a notebook to class everyday. Your attendance each day is also important. We will be covering a new lesson each class day, with a test every 6 lessons. It is your responsibility to do the make up work if you are absent. The daily assignments are up on the board in the classroom and on the web. Excused absences will be allowed a day to do make up work. Unexcused absences will receive no credit for all work done that day, although you are still responsible for the material that was covered. You must make arrangements to make up a test.

5. Extra Help

Help is available and encouraged. The best way to receive help is to ask your teacher and arrange a time to meet. There is a math Help session every Tuesday after school in Room 220. Ask questions whenever necessary. Also, take advantage of advisement.

6. Behavior

We expect that you act like young adults and treat each other with respect and dignity. Each student has a right to be in the classroom and to learn. Do not violate that right. Be on time to class, tardiness will not be tolerated. Cell phones or Ipods are not allowed in the classroom, nor are games on your calculators. Any problems with behavior will be dealt with by referrals to the office and parent communication.

PHS Effective school expectations:

- 1] Students are expected to remain in their seats until the teacher dismisses the class.
- 2] No passes will be used to leave class during the first and last 10 minutes of class.
- 3] Students are expected to present an admit for an unverified absence upon their return.
- 4] The PHS tardy and dress code policy will be enforced.
- 5] Students are expected to use the sign in/sign-out sheet to use the classroom pass.
- 6] Food and drink (except water) will not be allowed in the classroom.

7. Cheating

Cheating will not be tolerated. Any copying of tests, quizzes, or assignments will result in zero credit for all parties involved. Also, as per your student handbook, there will be referrals and parent contact. I would expect that students such as yourselves have high moral standards and goals, and that your honor is very important.

8. Calculators

Calculators will be used a lot. We would like to recommend that you own a TI-83 or TI-84 calculator.

9. Success is Yours

- a. Use your planner on a daily basis and get organized.
- b. Be polite and courteous at all times.
- c. Be attentive when someone else is speaking...
- d. Dress and act appropriately at all times.
- e. Enjoy food and drink before arriving to class.
- f. Be prompt and prepared at all times.
- g. Attendance is critical. If you are absent, you will miss something.
- h. Expect to be busy the entire class period.
- i. Grades are important, but nothing surpasses understanding and true knowledge. Success comes with hard work.
- j. Mathematics is the key to your future in more ways than you will know at this time. You are learning how to learn and problem solve in logical steps.
- k. The ability to critically think is the most important thing you will learn this year. Thinking skills transcend all of algebra and mathematics.
- l. Ask for help!
- m. Get the most out of your education.

13. How to Contact Us:

Email: Kristen.schenbeck@dcsdk12.org or Robert.Simpson@dcsdk12.org

Our Math web site: www.phsmath.org

****This web site provides you with a weekly schedule , answers, and the ability to download all supplemental lessons, problem sets for supplemental lessons, and graph paper. ****