

Mr. Burns

Room 316

Honors Algebra I

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Hello and welcome to a new school year!!! I'm excited to see all of you in my class and I hope you all had a fun and relaxing summer. I know I did!

I think it's very important that I'm clear with my classroom rules and student expectations so we will discuss these today so that you can come to class each day and know what to expect.

## **EXPECTATIONS**

My expectations for you are very simple.

**BE PROMPT** - I expect that you are on time to class and ready to work when I am. (that means in your seat with your book, binder, and sharpened pencil out, ready to go)

**BE POLITE AND POSITIVE – I DO NOT TOLERATE NOR APPRECIATE** put-downs, name calling, or the “just kidding” humor toward your fellow students. We're all in this together and we should treat each other with respect. You should also participate in classroom discussions and activities and listen attentively.

**BE PRODUCTIVE** – I expect all work to be turned in on time and fairly neat. I also expect you to do your best on everything to you do for me. If you cheat, there are serious consequences, both from me, and from the school. (Pg. 13 of your student handbook)

**BE A PROBLEM SOLVER** – Our universe is growing everyday. We're required to learn new things and solve new problems daily. I don't expect you to understand everything the first time you learn it. We don't learn that way. If you are having problems with something, try to solve it constructively. **Don't be afraid to ask questions.** I love questions, and I love students who ask questions.

## **MATERIALS**

I will require you to keep an organized binder. I do not want to see a super-huge binder with every subject, but a **single-subject binder with pockets** (1.0-1.5 inch) just for math. That binder should be divided into 5 parts with each part labeled:

1. Class notes/Class work/Worksheets
2. Homework
3. Tests/Quizzes
4. Reference Sheets
5. Blank paper (preferably graph paper)

EVERYTHING SHOULD BE DATED !!!

You are also expected to bring your **covered math book** and a **pen or pencil** to class each day. I think it's really important that you have a **calculator** as well. It doesn't have to be a fancy one, just a standard scientific calculator. We may not use it every day, but it's good to have on hand, just-in-case.

## **HOMEWORK / TESTS / QUIZZES / PROJECTS**

**Homework** will be given and I expect it to be completed by the next class. Please show all work on homework- failure to show work may result in a lower grade. **Late assignments will not be accepted** unless accompanied by an excused absence slip or as part of a special accommodation. Homework will be posted on iCal and on the class board.

**Tests:** You can expect to have a **test** at the end of each unit. These will generally take a whole period and will be worth around 100 points.

**Quizzes** will always be announced!!! I don't think it's fair to surprise you with quizzes. Generally, I will give about 2 quizzes per unit. They are designed to be short and quick and will usually be worth around 25 points.

## GRADING SYSTEM

A+ 99-100

A 95-98

A- 93-94

B+ 91-92

B 87-90

B- 85-86

C+ 83-84

C 78-82

C- 76-77

D 72-73

D- 70-71

F 0-69

Ok...so here's the great part. Part of my philosophy of teaching is that students should always have the opportunity to succeed. How I put this into practice is by letting my students **retake** any test/quiz that they fail. In fact, they can take it as many as 3 times within a unit!!! I do not allow retakes of unexcused, missing assignments, however. There is no reason why anyone should fail my class!



Students and Parents please read over my expectations for the classroom and sign below. This will be your child's first grade of the quarter. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to e-mail or call me. My e-mail address is [bj\\_burns@fivetowns.net](mailto:bj_burns@fivetowns.net) and you can reach me by phone at 236-7800 ext 316

*I have read and understand Mr. Burns's expectations for his classroom and will do my best to make this year a great one.*

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Student Signature

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Date

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Parent/Guardian Signature

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Date