Valley View Middle School
Algebra 1
“50th Anniversary-This is Our Story”
2015-2016

Course Title: Algebra 1
Teacher’s Name: Mrs. Melissa Glaze
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I. Course Standards/Objectives
The primary aim of this course is to develop mathematically empowered students who will be encouraged to:
1. Use mathematical thinking
2. Use mathematical ideas
3. Use different math tools and techniques
4. Work independently and in small groups
5. Accept the responsibility for their learning

To succeed in this class, students will need to not just arrive at a correct answer, but also prove and explain their answer through logical justification.

II. Textbooks & Materials
Textbook: Big Ideas Math – Algebra 1
Workbook: Record and Practice Journal, Big Ideas Math Algebra 1
The workbooks will be kept in the classroom.

Materials: Materials needed every day are:
• Agenda Book
• Notebook-You should have a 3-ring binder with a section for math.
• Sharpened pencils (at least 2)
• Notebook paper - Graph paper will also be useful.
• Red Pen for grading work
• Spiral notebook
• Glue stick

III. Classroom Rules and Policies
Valley View students are expected to demonstrate positive and respectful behaviors in the class and on our campus. We expect all students to adhere to the guidelines as outlined in the Valley View Agenda Book and on our website. In this classroom it is the expectation that all students will be responsible and respectful. That means that each student will:

• **Be on time.** It is important that you are in your seat ready for class to start when the bell rings.
• **Be prepared.** You must have all materials needed every day. These should be out on your desk when the tardy bell rings. These materials include a sharpened pencil, notebook paper; spiral notebook, math book, math assignment, and a red pen to grade papers.
• **Remain on task.** You are expected to take notes when given, and participate in all warm-ups and class discussions. When assignments are given, you are expected to work on them in class.
• **Be respectful at all times.** I do not usually require you to raise your hand to answer questions; I would rather hear a class response. However, yelling is inappropriate. In general, when I am talking, you shouldn’t be. If I have asked someone else to talk, you shouldn’t. Everyone should be respectful of other students’ answers and opinions.
IV. Student Responsibilities
Algebra I is a rigorous, high-school level course, and students will be expected to think and behave with such a level of maturity. Taken at the middle school, Algebra is an honors, or accelerated level class. Students were placed into this class based on test scores, previous grades, and teacher recommendation. It is the student’s responsibility to hand in all assignments on time, so as to not get behind in this fast-paced environment.

V. Grading/ Homework Policy
The student’s degree of mastery of the Common Core State Standards is the critical element in determining the letter grade in this class. Your student will demonstrate mastery in this class by completing quizzes, test, and math assignments. **Students are responsible for completing and handing in all assignments on time.** Math assignments will be assigned as needed to help reinforce lessons.

The following grade scale will be used:
90 - 100 = A
80 - 89 = B
70 - 79 = C
60 - 69 = D
59 - BELOW = F

The student’s degree of mastery of the Common Core State standards is the critical element in determining the letter grade in this class. Your student will demonstrate mastery in this class by the following assessments:
- Tests/Quizzes - 70%
- Class work - 20% (notes, performance task, projects)
- Homework - 10%

This class uses AERIES to communicate with parents and students. Grades are regularly updated and posted online for the convenience of parents and students.

**NO WORK, NO CREDIT**
An answer alone is not acceptable. Even yes/no (true/false) questions require some work.
1) copy or set-up the problem
2) work the problem
3) clearly indicate the solution
4) give answers to word problems in complete sentences.

**Heading for All Papers**
In the upper right hand corner above the first line of your notebook paper:
- First & Last Name
- Period
- Date

On the first line of notebook paper, write the assignment (pages and problem numbers).

**Homework policy:** Homework will be assigned almost every night and will be checked the following day at the beginning of class for completeness. Students will grade their own homework in class, and make all corrections so that they have 100% perfect work to study from. It is the students responsibility to write their homework down daily in their agenda book. Homework will be graded the following: 2 points complete and showed all work, 1 point half complete and showed work.

**Warm up pages**
On Friday’s students will turn in their warm up pages. Every problem is worth 1 point. It is graded in class either right or wrong. On Monday’s they will receive their warm up paper back with a score for the week that consist of warm ups and homework.
VI. Tardy and Absence Policies

♦ Classroom Absence Policy: If a student is absent, the student will have the same number of days to complete missed assignments that she/he was absent. The student is responsible for all missed assignments. All work turned in late due to an absence must say “absent” on the weekly agenda and turned in on Friday. If a student is absent for a quiz or test he/she is expected to take it on the day of return. Notes, handouts and warm-ups are available in the crates at the back of the class.

♦ School Tardy Policy: Tardies are unacceptable. Those students who are responsible and respectful earn good citizenship grades. Four (4) tardies to class will affect the citizenship grade for the quarter “N” (Needs to Improve). Six (6) tardies to class will result in a “U” (unsatisfactory grade) in citizenship.

VII. Additional Information about This Class

In order to make this a successful year for your child, your input and support is very important. You may contact me in several different ways. You may write me a note in your child’s agenda book for the student to show me; you may call the school at (805) 520-6820 ext.1383; or email me at melissa.glaze@simivalleyusd.org. The email option will get you the fastest response to any questions or concerns you may have.

I look forward to working with your child this year and meeting each of you at Back-to-School Night on Thursday, September 10, 2015.