

WELCOME TO 8th Grade PreAlgebra

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Name: Mrs. Ashley Rink

Phone: 580-864-7482, x118 (Plan Period 5th hour: 12:35 - 1:25)

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Remind: Text @rinkprealg to 81010

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Once on the school website, choose Teacher Pages tab, then select Ashley Rink. Or you may go directly to my site my using the above QR code.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: 8th grade PreAlgebra is a class designed to reinforce students' prior knowledge of middle school math: fractions, decimals, measurement conversions, and basic algebra. This course will deepen students' understanding of algebra. We will focus on linear functions and relationships - solving, graphing, analyzing, and writing. Prealgebra also has a large focus on geometry skills. Students will learn to use tools such as rulers, protractors, and compasses while drawing and analyzing both 2D and 3D figures. Students will develop the ability to: explore and solve mathematical problems, think critically, work cooperatively with others, and communicate mathematical ideas clearly. Students will learn all required concepts to help them succeed on the end of instruction exam given in May as well as material that will help them to succeed in our future transition to Oklahoma Academic Standards.

MATERIALS:

- PreAlgebra Textbook - Glencoe/McGraw-Hill (\$85)
- PreAlgebra workbook and State Test Prep Workbook
- Composition Notebook
- loose-leaf paper, pencils, and erasers

**The above materials are the property of Covington-Douglas Public Schools and will be returned at the end of the school year. Non-consumable materials not returned must be paid for.

GRADING: Students will be graded on their understanding and completion of homework, in class assignments, participation, Interactive Student Notebooks, quizzes, and tests.

Grades are weighted on the following scale:

Tests	40%
Quizzes & Interactive Student Notebook	30%
Homework	30%

Grading Scale

A: 90 - 100%	D: 60 - 70%
B: 80 - 90%	F: 0 - 60%
C: 70 - 80%	

Parents and student can access grades through the Covington-Douglas school website. A login is required and this can be obtained from Mrs. Sharp at the beginning of the school year.

Interactive student notebook: This year in PreAlgebra we are going to be working with Interactive Student Notebooks (ISN)! I'm very excited about these and hope that you will be too. ISNs will require complete cooperation from all students. We will be cutting, gluing, folding, etc to make a notebook that will last for years to come with all the algebra knowledge you have gained! ISNs will be unique to each student - students will choose their own paper color, marker colors, etc. The notebook will be split into left and right pages. Right pages will be used for note-taking, foldables, graphic organizers, etc. Left sides will be for students to show what they have learned with practice problems, word problems, critical thinking skills, and much more. ISNs will contain a table of contents, making it very easy for students to reference them for upcoming quizzes and tests. ISNs will be graded frequently throughout the semester in a variety of ways. It is important to keep up with your notebook even if absent.

ISN Prep: Students are expected to come to class prepared with all materials every day! Once students enter the room, they need to begin filling in ISN information (page numbers, titles, etc) from the board. Also, any materials needed for the day's ISN page need to be gathered from the front table.

Homework: Students will typically be given a daily assignment that will be due the following day. Students will be informed of due dates on all assignments. Although ISNs will be colorful and filled with markers, crayons, pens, etc, HOMWORK MUST BE COMPLETED IN PENCIL ONLY!!! Also, all work must be shown. As we move to new standards, logical and critically thinking are essential and these can only be measured by writing logically - NO WORK = NO CREDIT!

All assignments must contain student name and assignment with page number and problems in the top right corner of the page. If any of these elements are missing or if the assignment is completed in something other than pencil, the assignment will receive a grade of 0.

Homework Pass: Homework must be in the classroom and ready to turn in when the tardy bell rings. Homework that is not turned in when due will receive a grade of 0. Students should use their time wisely and have homework ready by the due date. ***Each student will be given a FREE HOMEWORK PASS at the beginning of each nine week period. This pass can be used to replace a homework assignment that a student does not have ready to turn in. It must be turned in when the assignment is due. Students may only use one pass per nine weeks - even if you have four, you may only use one! Passes are for homework ONLY - no quizzes, tests, group projects, etc.

QUIZZES & TESTS: All tests and quizzes are to be done in PENCIL and all work must be shown or they will not be graded. Quizzes will not always be announced. All tests will be announced in advance. A practice test will be given one to two days in advance of the test to help students review material. Students are expected to be prepared for tests. Practice tests will be reviewed in class, but if additional help is needed I will be available before school, at lunch, and after school.

PARTICIPATION: Students will be expected to participate daily in class. This includes but is not limited to completing ISN pages, asking/answering questions about homework and lessons, and cooperating with classmates during in-class projects. Each student will receive up to 5 participation points daily. Points will be deducted from students that are tardy, not prepared for class, cause a disturbance during class, etc.

ABSENCES: It is the responsibility of the student to obtain notes and assignments from any absence. ISNs must be completed even if absent, I will have a copy of the material or you may obtain it from a classmate. If help is needed for the assignment, students must come in before school. Absent students will have as many days as their absence in order to make up assignments missed. If a student is going to be absent due to a school activity, the student must meet with me at least one day in advance of the absence in order to obtain notes and/or the assignment that will be missed. Students will not be able to receive credit for the missed assignment unless they have met with me in advance. If the student needs help with the assignment that they have missed, they must come in before school on the day they return to school. If the student does not come in before school, it will be assumed that they understood the assignment and it will be due in class. Students that are absent the day before a test will still be expected to take the test on the scheduled day. Students that are absent the day of a test will be expected to take the exam on the day that they return to school.

CELL PHONES: As stated in the student handbook, "The use of cell phones and/or electronic devices during school hours is prohibited, unless directly given permission by a teacher. A student may possess a cell phone at school, but if it is used, seen or makes noise it will be confiscated by a faculty member." I have a cell phone bucket at the front of the classroom. If you put your phone in the bucket at the beginning of class and it rings, the phone will not be confiscated. However, if you choose to keep your phone and it rings or you are seen using it, I will confiscate it and turn it in at the office.

TUTORING: Students in grades 6 - 8 with a D or F grade in any course are required to attend weekly tutoring. Students will meet with a designated teacher Tuesday - Thursday mornings at 8AM in the high school computer lab. Their tutor will inform them of their weekly progress. Any student that does not attend mandatory tutoring will be referred to Mr. Smith for disciplinary action.