

MR. AYRES ALGEBRA 1

COURSE INFORMATION 2021-2022

ROOM 610 – TEAM CANAVERAL – NOBLESVILLE WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

WHAT'S INCLUDED:

WELCOME TO CLASS!

About the Course

Algebra 1 is a full year course. Topics in this course include but are not limited to solving linear equations, inequalities, and proportions; linear relationships, graphing techniques, slope, multiple strategies for solving systems of equations, exponential functions, scatter plots and data analysis, quadratic equations, radical expressions, and an in-depth analysis of various families of functions.

About Mr. Ayres

I am excited to begin my 8th year teaching mathematics at Noblesville West Middle School and my 20th year teaching secondary mathematics! I graduated from Ball State University with degrees in mathematics education and secondary education in 2001 and 2006, respectively. In my spare time I enjoy watching the Indianapolis Colts and Indiana Pacers, composing/arranging music, and spending time with family, including my wife Sara and two kids Evan (6) and Emmerson (2). Let's get fired up for math and have an awesome year!

Contacting Mr. Ayres

The best way to contact me is via e-mail. My e-mail address is aaron_ayres@nobl.k12.in.us. I will do my best to respond to all e-mail messages within 48 hours. I also have a classroom Twitter feed. By subscribing to my Twitter account [@ayresmath](https://twitter.com/ayresmath), students and families can now receive class updates through their own Twitter account, the Twitter app for smartphones, or by sending a text message containing **follow ayresmath to 40404** (do not include any signatures in your message). Remember that while Twitter is a free service, all text messaging and data rates from your phone carrier will apply. I also have an account on Instagram via the profile **ayresmath1** so now Instagram users can also receive classroom updates!

"You have a choice. You can throw-in the towel or use it to wipe the sweat from your face." Gatorade Ad

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Required Materials

Students should bring the following materials daily to class:

- Writing utensils (Students are asked not to use **red** ink or lead)
- A folder and/or binder designated for this class to keep track of returned class paperwork
- A wireless or spiral notebook and/or loose-leaf paper designated for this class for completing assignments and note-taking purposes
- Although students can use a handheld scientific calculator during class, **it is recommended that students utilize the DESMOS calculator app on the iPad throughout the year to prepare for using this calculator on the ILEARN exam. Note:** *A student's cell phone may not be utilized as a calculator during class or on any assessments, including ILEARN.* It is also expected that students bring their iPad (charged and ready) to class each meeting as we will be using various iPad applications and other tools throughout the year.

GRADING CRITERIA

The coursework during each semester will be weighted and distributed using the following criteria:

ASSESSMENTS: 75%

PRACTICE: 10%

SEMESTER FINAL EXAM: 15%

PowerSchool

Please use PowerSchool to check for the most current and complete grade information, as PowerSchool displays the official grade for the course (not Canvas.) I will make every effort to update grades in PowerSchool on a weekly basis. **If a student earns below 50% on an assignment or assessment, PowerSchool will now automatically change the score on the assignment to the number of points equivalent to 50% of the points possible.** For assessments, I will indicate the original score in the comment section of the PowerSchool entry.

Assessments

Multiple types of assessments will be administered during the semester. These may include but are not limited to end-of-topic examinations and/or performance tasks. All assessments will evaluate a students' mastery of the standards addressed in the course. When applicable, students will have access to calculators. Students will also have the option to retake major assessments provided they fulfill established criteria prior to the retake opportunity. More information retakes will be shared with students and families prior to giving the first assessment of the first unit.

Practice Assignments

Practice assignments consist of both in-class activities and additional practice opportunities to be completed outside of the classroom. Some in-class tasks will be counted for points, such as learning checks, exit tickets, and possible mini-quizzes, and those points will contribute 10% of the student's overall course grade. To preserve grade accuracy across all students on the team, students that miss in-class tasks that count as points toward their grade due to absenteeism will need to complete these assignments during SLT as promptly as possible.

Other assignments will be issued to be completed outside of school hours. A typical practice assignment should take around 15-20 minutes. If more than 30 minutes is spent doing one assignment, please come and request help during SLT or after school (with an appointment) and together we will pinpoint any errors and correct them. **Practice assignments that are designated to be completed outside of school hours will NOT count toward or against a students' grade. Instead, they will be marked collected (green checkmark) or missing (yellow indicator) in PowerSchool. All assignments issued during a topic of study of study are due BEFORE the final assessment for the unit is administered.**

Incomplete and missing assignments will be documented as such in PowerSchool until they are completed and submitted. Assignments will be marked "late" once the submission deadline has passed.

Students should check Canvas or the team assignment Google Slides presentation for the latest assignment information daily. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain make-up assignments due to absenteeism and complete them in a timely fashion according to school policy.

Spirals

Each semester students will regularly take mini-assessments (called *spirals*) that will reinforce prior standards and/or provide opportunities for enrichment. Students will be assigned spiral topics based upon classroom performance and status on ILEARN and/or NWEA assessments. More information about spirals will be shared with students and families before implementation.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

Every class meeting, students will be expected to:

PREPARE FOR CLASS

CONDUCT SELF APPROPRIATELY

PARTICIPATE/ENGAGE IN CLASS

COMPLETE ASSIGNED TASKS

Possible interpretations of these expectations are provided below (many more exist!):

Prepare for Class

Be in the classroom ready to begin class when the bell rings. Come to each class meeting with **ALL** required materials and prepared to submit assignments and perform well on assessments.

Conduct Self Appropriately

All NWMS and *Miller Way* student expectations always apply. **Socializing, sleeping, and off-task activities are not permitted during class.** Please refrain from bringing food, drinks, or candy into the classroom. Follow all guidelines regarding the use of electronic devices and group interactions posted in class. Most importantly, be sure to display respect towards others' space, property, beliefs, and values.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS (CONTINUED)

Participate/Engage in Class

During class, listen carefully to the instructor or students talking in your group. Take notes and complete all class activities as requested. Contribute to the discussion by asking questions, solving problems in your groups, or answering questions from other students and myself.

Complete Assigned Tasks

Make sure all assignments and tasks are completed and submitted on time. Students who habitually submit assignments after the designated due date for unexcused reasons or not at all could be subject to additional consequences.

INTERVENTIONS FOR STUDENT MISBEHAVIOR

If a student decides to defy a classroom expectation, the following interventions will take place:

Intervention 1

A verbal and/or visual warning will be given to the student.

Intervention 2

The student will sign the misbehavior log and document the infraction. The student's family will be contacted either via telephone or e-mail regarding the student's misbehavior. A change of seating location and/or a time-out in the hallway will also take place.

Intervention 3

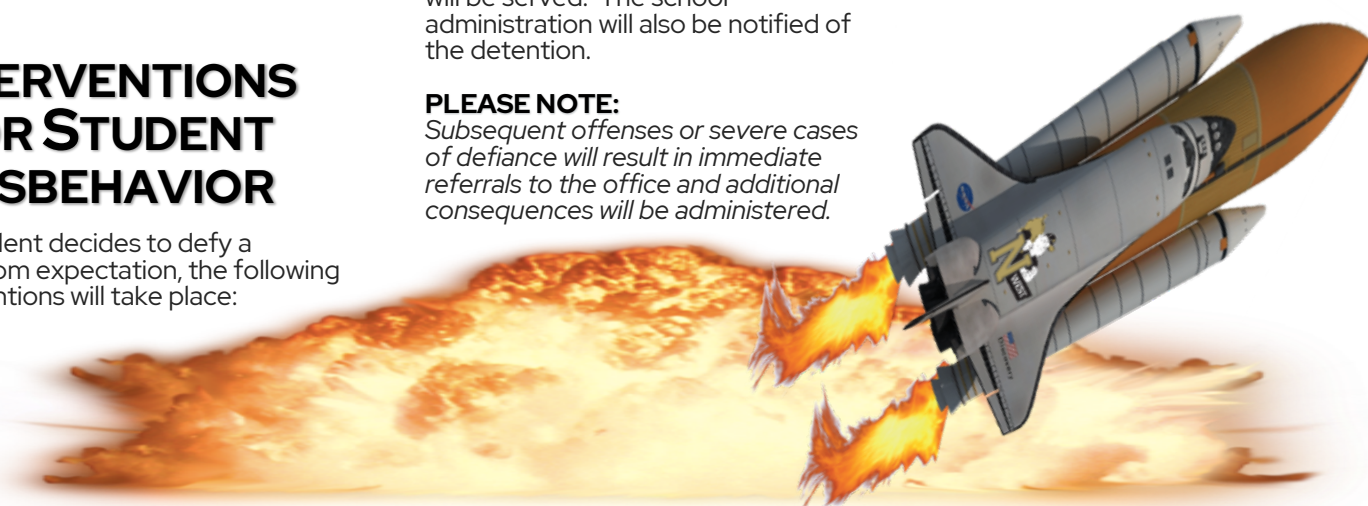
The student will sign the misbehavior log again and will receive a 30-minute detention to be served either before school, during lunch, or after school. The student's family will be notified of the offense and arrangements will be made regarding when the detention will be served. The school administration will also be notified of the detention.

PLEASE NOTE:

Subsequent offenses or severe cases of defiance will result in immediate referrals to the office and additional consequences will be administered.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

There are several opportunities throughout the day for students to receive assistance in mathematics class. SLT time should be utilized as a first resort. If the SLT period is not an option, please arrange with me to receive some additional assistance before or after school another time during the school day. Finally, please know that the door is always open to all students whenever they need help, academic or other. Please feel free to stop by! Contact via e-mail is also welcomed as I check e-mail several times daily. Please do not hesitate to send me a message or request assistance.



STUDENT & FAMILY REVIEW FORM

Please complete and submit this form by August 9, 2021. Students will submit this form from Notability to Canvas.

I have reviewed and understand the policies and procedures outlined in this 2021-2022 Course Information Guide for Mr. Ayres' class and have reviewed this information with my child.

Student's Name (Please print in the box):

Signature of Student:

Parent/Guardian's Name (Please print in the box):

Signature of Parent or Guardian: