

Expectations, Procedures, and Policies

For Miss Gilbert's (Ms. G) OSA Room 205 Algebra Students

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The big idea for this course is for students to learn to communicate some basic mathematics concepts (primarily an introduction to functions) to one-another, as well as their K-8 peers who might be in lower levels of math (younger siblings, take head!). There is much language development embedded in Common Core Algebra, as well as important 21st century skills identified by the National Center for Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) as the following:

SUMMARY OF MATHEMATICAL PRACTICES

- 1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.***
- 2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.***
- 3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.***
- 4. Model with mathematics.***
- 5. Use appropriate tools strategically.***
- 6. Attend to precision.***
- 7. Look for and make use of structure.***
- 8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.***

The mathematical practices (also known as Habits of Mind) are designed to strengthen students' skills in creating and executing well-thought out plans of any kind —giving them the potential to see improvement in creating positive change across any discipline. The key-words “persevere,” “construct viable argument and critique,” and “tools,” stand out as especially useful in the arts, and this is why this class is vitally important even at a school whose primary focus is arts education. If you are interested in a more detailed list of vocabulary or concepts covered, please check in with your budding student, as well as make an appointment with me.

GRADING PERCENTAGES

A 93 - 100%	B+ 87 – 89%	C+ 77 – 79%	D+ 67 – 69%	F < 60%
A- 90 - 92%	B 83 – 86%	C 73 – 76%	D 63 – 66%	
	B- 80 – 82%	C- 70 – 72%	D- 60 – 62%	

HOMEWORK

It is my intent to keep student workload out-of-class to a minimum, but it is possible for them to have as much as 30 minutes of homework daily. Expect to fully participate in assignments that utilize all the resources you have at home, such as photo-printing, book and collage-making, internet research, and practice- teaching younger math students.

MATERIALS

In class, students will be making a book of their own, complete with numbered pages, a table-of-contents, explanations, charts, graphs, and an appendix. This notebook should contain all materials that students use in the course, so that any auxiliary practices worksheets should be trimmed and glued/stapled into the notebook. Students will be expected to have 2 mechanical pencils ready for use at all times.

SPECIAL PROJECTS/PRESENTATIONS

Most assignments will be worth 10 or 100 points, and special projects and presentations are not required. However, should students elect to complete special projects around mathematical topics (including computer science and utilizing technology) these can be arranged and students may earn some credit in this manner.

BEHAVIORAL POLICY

Room 205 has a stepped positive-behavioral management plan that works the following way: OSA tickets will be given out for exceptional exemplars of the Habits of Mind listed above. Students are expected to maintain their surroundings, to keep them safe, quiet, and clean according to the classroom norms which we will review extensively during the 1st week of class.

Consequences for choosing to meet or exceed the expectations:

1. The Joy of Learning
2. Verbal Praise
3. Merit Points
4. OSA Tickets

What you can earn with OSA Tickets

- 1 OSA ticket
 - Glitter pound
- 2 OSA tickets
 - Positive call home
 - Positive note home
- 3 OSA tickets
 - Scholar prize bin
 - 1 merit point
- 4 OSA tickets
 - To be determined—*parents*, here is where we can work together to find out how your budding student is best motivated! I am willing to contribute to the purchase of a new book from Amazon or tickets to a movie if we want to work together.
 - 2 merit points



Consequences for choosing to not meet the expectations:

1. Verbal or visual warning.
2. After-class, during-lunch, or after school meeting with Miss Gilbert (and possible call home)
3. After-class, during-lunch, or after school meeting with Miss Gilbert, and a call home
4. After-class, during-lunch, or after school meeting with Miss Gilbert, a call home, and referral to administration.

VISITOR POLICY

Because we are a class with big goals and that will achieve great results, we will have more visitors in our classroom than normal. Do not be distracted by visitors, but instead, show them why we will become the most successful Mathematics class in all of Oakland!

GENERAL CLASSROOM DECORUM

1. ISSUES WITH SEATING CHARTS, ATTENDANCE, ELECTRONIC DEVICES, HATS, SCHOOL OR PERSONAL PROPERTY, FOOD&DRINK, MAKE-UP/HAIR STYLING AND GUM ARE ALL GROUNDS FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION AND CAN CAUSE REAL ISSUES IN CLASS. PLEASE REFER TO THE STUDENT HANDBOOK FOR GUIDANCE AND UNDERSTAND THAT THE CLASSROOM IS A PLACE TO PRACTICE RETRAINT, DISCIPLINE, PEACEFUL, QUIET, APPROPRIATE, RESPECTFUL BEHAVIOR AT ALL TIMES.