

# WHEELER HIGH SCHOOL COURSE EXPECTATIONS

*Algebra I*

*Level*

*Miss Riesel*

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*Room 146*

## *I. Course Overview:*

This course is a course designed to fulfill student's mathematic diploma standards. This course will be following the Algebra I Curriculum from the State of Connecticut's Common Core State Standards. Students will be actively involved in the learning process through a hands-on, investigation approach.

## *II. Overall Course Objectives (from curriculum):*

### **Standards for Mathematical Practice:**

- Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
- Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
- Model with mathematics.
- Use appropriate tools strategically.
- Look for and make use of structure.
- Look for and express regularity in repeated reason.

### **Algebra Objectives:**

- The fundamental structure of algebra provides a systematic method for identifying, describing, extending, analyzing and generalizing patterns.
- Algebra provides a way to use numbers, symbolic notation, and arithmetic operations to model, transform simplify, and solve problems efficiently.
- Information provides ways to describe and classify relationships and functions and use the classifications to derive models that have practical real-world applications.
- Algebra provides a way to explore and understand the effects of parameter changes on any function and its various representations.
- Algebra is a process of conjecturing about the relationships among quantities and measures. It provides a way to describe correlations, summarize data sets, estimate and make predictions, including extrapolation and interpolation of data.
- Algebra provides the underlying structure to make connections among all branches of mathematics, including measurement, geometry, calculus, and statistics.
- Innovations in technology allow users to explore and deepen their understanding of new and long-standing mathematical concepts and applications of algebra.

III. *Wheeler High School Academic Expectations met and evaluated by this course:*

- *Analysis (assessed in this course)*
- *Collaboration*
- *Communication*
- *Literacy*

IV. *Material Required:*

- Binder
- Paper
- Dividers
- Pencils
- TI-83/84 calculator

Students should keep all assignments to help prepare for the midterm and final exam. If students do not have a calculator, one will be issued to the student for the year. Calculators are used to explore, discover and reinforce the concepts of algebra throughout this course.

V. *Class/Behavior Expectations:*

- Be on time and prepared for class.
- Be respectful, responsible, honest and safe to self, others and all property.
- Be active and involved in learning.
- All school rules and policies as stated in the handbook apply.
- Cell phones
  - Cell phones should not be on a student's desk unless directed to be used by a teacher for class purposes.
  - Students should not be talking on cell phones during class or during hallway passing time. School phones are available in our main office if a student needs to call home at any time and we encourage this practice if needed.
  - Students should not use their cell phones to ask to be dismissed if they are not feeling good. Instead, students should be evaluated by our school nurse and our school nurse will call home to let a parent or guardian know they need to be picked up.
  - Cell phones should not be used to record or photograph students or teachers without their permission. If this occurs, students will be disciplined appropriately and will automatically lose their privilege of carrying a cell phone during the school day for the remainder of that school year.
  - Cell phones are NOT permitted in bathrooms or locker rooms under any circumstances. A student caught with a cell phone in any of these areas will receive appropriate disciplinary action including a possible in-school suspension.
  - Cell phones are not allowed in classrooms during mid-term or final exams and they cannot be used for their calculator during such assessments.

- Hats
  - Hats may be worn in the hallways and cafeteria only.
  - Students must remove them upon entering classrooms or the library.

VI. *Attendance Policy (BOE Policy #5113) – as stated in handbook:*

The North Stonington Public Schools believes that regular school attendance is essential for an effective and productive learning experience. The sequential presentation of school learning requires a continuity of instruction. The maximum benefits for each individual child can be achieved only from participation and interaction in daily activity. In addition to instruction, other learning processes take place each day that are vital to a student's overall emotional and social growth. Time lost in school is irretrievable in terms of instructional opportunity and social interaction.

The primary responsibility for adherence to regular attendance rests with the student's parents/guardians and the individual student. The Connecticut General Statutes requires students over five and under eighteen years of age to attend school on a regular basis. Appropriate legal action will be taken against parents/guardians whose children fail to abide by the Connecticut Compulsory Attendance Law.

*A student is considered to be "in attendance" if present at their school, or an activity sponsored by the school (i.e., field trip), for at least half of the scheduled school day. Any student in school for less than half of the scheduled school day will be considered absent. A student who is serving an out-of-school suspension or expulsion will be considered absent.*

Excused Absence

The Board believes a student should not be absent from school without the parents' knowledge and consent, therefore verification of an absence should be in writing by a parent or guardian. The first nine (9) absences will be considered excused if a parent approves the absence and if it is properly documented with a signed note from a parent or a notation is made in the student's attendance record by a school official who received either a verbal or electronic communication from the parent. Family vacations are discouraged during the school year.

For the tenth (10) absence and all absences thereafter, absences will be considered excused for the following reasons:

- a. Student Illness (verified by a medical professional);
- b. Student observance of a religious holiday;
- c. Death in a student's family or emergency beyond the control of the student's family;
- d. Mandated court appearance e. Extraordinary educational opportunities (i.e., college visits) pre-approved by district administrators and in accordance with SDE guidelines.

There shall be no penalty for an excused absence, however, a phone call from a parent does not necessarily constitute an excused absence. Students are encouraged to bring notes from their parent/guardian or physician to the Main Office on the day of return to school. These notes must

specify the reason(s) for the absence and must conform to the Board of Education Policy # 5113. Excused absences will be listed on the morning bulletin of the day the note is received and marked in PowerSchool, and students will be allowed to make up all work missed. When a student is absent for extended periods of time--more than three days-- parents may obtain assignments from the teachers through the counseling office. Failure to make up assignments may result in a grade of zero for each missing assignment. A student may expect to have one day for each day of absence in order to make up missed work. If a student is absent from school, he/she may not be on school grounds. Extenuating circumstances will be dealt with on a case by case basis by the administration.

Unexcused Absence:

An unexcused absence occurs when a student is out of school beyond the first nine (9) absences, parent documentation is not provided for the first nine (9) absences and the absences does not meet one of the excused absence reasons listed above. For every unexcused absence, the student will not be allowed to make up or receive credit for work missed.

Protocol:

When a student reaches ten absences the attendance board at Wheeler will review their days absent in order to determine a plan of action to encourage success for the remainder of the year.

Tardy to Class:

If a student is more than fifteen (15) minutes late for class, other than because of a school-sanctioned event, he or she will be considered absent from class.

Limit on Total Number of Absences (High School Only):

No student will receive course credit for a full year course after having been absent from that course for more than twenty (20) class periods (excused or unexcused) during the school year for reasons other than school sponsored activities (i.e. field trips). The total number of absences will be pro-rated for less than full year courses and for courses which meet other than five times per week.

**VII. Grading Policy: Total Points System**

Tests:	100 points
Quizzes:	50 points
Quick Quizzes:	25 points
Homework:	2-10 points
Warm-Ups/Exit Tickets:	2-10 points
In-Class Assignments/Projects:	5-25 points
Projects:	25-100 points

Students will be able to correct quizzes and tests dependent on teacher discretion.

Semester Grade: 40% of each quarter, 20% of semester exam

### *VIII. Final Assessment Policy*

For one-credit, full-year courses, examinations are given at the conclusion of each semester—one at the midpoint and one at the end of the school year. For half-credit courses, a final will be given at the end of the semester. All examinations, except in selected classes, are one and one-half hours in length. All students must arrive on time and remain in class for the full duration of the exam period. Students taking the AP test will not be required to sit for a final exam. Seniors are exempt from taking a final exam with a 90% or higher in that class. Normally, no excuse for missing an exam other than illness will be accepted. The Principal must give such permission.

### *IX. Academic Integrity Statement*

The faculty and administration of Wheeler Middle/High School demand high standards of academic performance and academic honesty. Anything less would jeopardize quality education and allow our students to deny themselves needed skills and knowledge. For this reason students who cheat on their assigned work, reports, research papers, quizzes, tests or examination risk prompt and punitive action by both their teacher and the school. Examples of violations may include, but are not limited to:

- Giving or receiving aid on tests and graded assignments
- Unauthorized talking during tests
- Copying regular homework/exercises
- Unapproved discussion of examinations/assignments contents
- Cheating on peer reviews of student work
- Misuse of technology

Documentation of all sources is important to avoid plagiarism, which is the stealing of another's ideas, words, writing, or academic work, and implying that it is original. Both quoting and paraphrasing information from an outside source, including any technology without crediting that source is a form of plagiarism. Students who are found cheating or plagiarizing will be subject to the following guidelines:

#### First offense:

- Academic penalty up to and including zero.
- Parent contacted.
- Administration notified (by teachers completing a discipline form).

#### Subsequent offenses:

- Academic penalty up to and including zero.
- Parent contacted.

- Disciplinary action by administration which may include office detention or suspension

*X. Teacher Availability for Extra Help:*

Seek extra help immediately. Never be afraid to come ask for extra help if it will make you feel better with the material! I will be available during X block on Tuesdays and Thursdays or you can talk with me to discuss a time for you to come in.

*XI. Make Up Work:*

Students are responsible for all material covered and assignments during an excused absence. Work should be completed and turned in the next day. Missed assignments will be available in a folder in the classroom. In cases of lengthy excused absences, a make-up plan will be devised. Students are encouraged to see me during X block on Tuesdays and Thursdays for missed information and assignments.

*XII. Topics Covered:*

- Arithmetic and Geometric Patterns
- Linear Equations and Inequalities
- Functions
- Linear Functions
- Scatter Plots and Trend Lines
- Systems of Equations
- Exponential Functions
- Quadratic Functions and Equations

Parents/Guardians, please complete the following information below acknowledging that you have read the course syllabus for your child's class this year:

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred means of contact:

- Phone
- Email

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_