



Pre-Algebra

Pine Valley Middle School

2009-2010

Course Content

A grade level course designed to provide students with sufficient mathematical foundation to meet seventh grade state and district standards (see Content Standards for Grade 7 attached). Successful completion of this course adequately prepares students for Algebra 1.

Instructor

Ms. Laura Bramble

lbramble@srvusd.net, 479.7700 (School Office)

Textbook

Students receive a McDougal Littell, California Math – Course 2 textbook to use and keep at home in order to alleviate carrying the textbook to and from school. The textbook must be covered at all times. Damage to the book will result in a fine at the end of the school year.

Daily Materials

Students are expected to have the following supplies daily:

- One-inch binder for MATH ONLY
- Five dividers (Notes, Homework, Quizzes/Tests, DMR, Binder/Graph Paper)
- Binder Paper
- Perforated quad-spiral notebook
- Pencils/mechanical pencils with eraser
- Colored ballpoint pens
- Pencil pouch
- Miniature stapler with an ample amount of staples
- An inexpensive scientific calculator
- Two dry-erase markers
- Pine Valley Binder Reminder

Students are expected to have supplies by _____.

Classroom Guidelines

In order to create and maintain an environment conducive to learning, students are expected to adhere to the following guidelines:

- Be in your seat before the bell rings.
- Be considerate of others. (Respect students' and teachers' comments, opinions, and ideas.)
- Bring all materials needed for class.
- Keep hands, feet, and other objects to yourself.
- Obey all school rules outlined in the Pine Valley Handbook.

The following consequences will be enforced for choosing not to adhere to the guidelines:

- Verbal warning
- Litter Pick-Up
- If the student is unable to correct the behavior, a fifteen-minute detention is assigned and a parent/guardian is notified.
- Administrative referral

Tardy Policy

Being tardy to class disrupts the learning environment. Students are expected to be in their assigned seat before the bells rings. Unexcused tardies will be dealt with as follows:

- 1st Tardy – Verbal Warning
- 2nd Tardy – Litter Pick-Up
- 3rd Tardy – Fifteen-minute detention, parent/guardian notified through Schoolloop
- 4th Tardy – Administrative Referral

Grading

A quarter grade is composed of daily homework assignments/classwork (5 points – see Homework Hints attached), quizzes (10-50 points), and tests (100 points). A semester grade is determined by averaging two quarters. A letter grade is assigned to the student's percent of points earned in relation to the points possible.

100 – 93 = A	76.9 – 73 = C
92.9 – 90 = A-	72.9 – 70 = C-
89.9 – 87 = B+	69.9 – 67 = D+
86.9 – 83 = B	66.9 – 63 = D
82.9 – 80 = B-	62.9 – 60 = D-
79.9 – 77 = C+	59.9 – 0 = F

Students and parents are encouraged to visit Schoolloop (www.pvms.schoolloop.com) daily to monitor student progress. Grades are published at least once a week. Schoolloop's calendar is a reliable resource to find daily homework assignments and quiz/test announcements. To register for Schoolloop, a student identification number is required. Follow these steps to register:

- Go to www.pvms.schoolloop.com
- Select **Register Now**
- Select **Parent Registration**
- Enter necessary information
- Click the blue **Register** button on the bottom left of the page
- Read the User Agreement

If you choose to accept the agreement, click the blue **Accept Agreement** button.

Late homework is not accepted. At the teacher's discretion, a student may attend Academic Saturday School once per quarter to complete three missing homework assignments for half-credit. Students receive one "Homework Helper" per quarter. A "Homework Helper" extends the due date by one school day. If a "Homework Helper" is attached to a completed homework assignment and submitted in a timely manner, the assignment will be accepted for full credit. The use of a "Homework Helper" is recorded as a footnote on Schoolloop's progress report.

Absences

If a student is absent, it is the student's responsibility to acquire notes and assignments missed during the absence. Students are encouraged to visit Schoolloop to find missed assignments. Absent work must be completed and submitted within a reasonable amount of time upon returning to the classroom.

Recommendations

A preliminary recommendation to Algebra 1 is based on the following criteria:

- An overall grade of 70% or better first and second semester
- A test average of 70% or better first and second semester
- A "proficient" STAR score
- Teacher recommendation

If a student does not meet the criteria, he or she will be recommended to Transitions to Algebra. Final placement will be determined upon return to school in the fall.

Office Hours

If a student is performing below apparent ability or struggling with assignments, students are encouraged to visit the appropriate teacher during scheduled “office hours.” It is the student’s responsibility to ask for help BEFORE an assignment is due.

Mondays, Wednesdays – 2:30-3:00 p.m.

Office hours may change throughout the year due to coaching and/or afternoon conferences. Changes will be announced on Schoolloop.

Important Dates

Thursday, September 3	Back to School Night
Friday, October 30	First Quarter Ends
Monday, October 5-Friday, October 9	Fall Conference Week
Friday, January 22	First Semester Ends
Wednesday, March 17-Friday, March 19	Spring Conference Week
Friday, March 26	Third Quarter Ends
Thursday, June 10	Second Semester Ends/Last Day of School

We read the course overview and understand its content.

Student Name _____
Please Print

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Parent/Guardian E-Mail _____