

Hampstead Hill Academy
Algebra 1 Syllabus
Mrs. LB

HOW DO I REACH MRS. LB?

Bloomz communication preferred

cluthers@hha47.org

(443) 961-7065

WELCOME!

Welcome to Algebra I! We have an exciting, busy, challenging, and fun year ahead. We will be able to grow a lot together and as a classroom community we will work hard to give everyone an opportunity to meet our big goals and their individual goals. This is your last step before high school. When you produce quality work and strive to reach your goals this year, you will leave middle school prepared to tackle the challenges you may face throughout your educational journey.

THRIVE

In math this year, we will THRIVE. The term *thrive* is defined as growing or developing well or vigorously, to prosper or flourish. As a class, we will encourage our peers to grow by thriving. This growth may sometimes feel uncomfortable, but that is when the most growth happens. We will grow as doers of mathematics, engaged citizens, and productive members of our community. With this constant support and encouragement, as well as showing resilience, we will all reach our goals by the end of the school year.

Our BIG GOALS

It is important to set goals throughout the year to make sure we are working to reach our full potential. We also must have BIG GOALS that will remind us what we are capable of achieving. This year, our BIG GOALS are:

“TOGETHER, we will grow to achieve an 85% or higher class average each marking period this year.”

“TOGETHER, we will grow to achieve an 80% or higher class average on each end of unit assessment this year.”

We will track our class average with each progress report and report card on our virtual DATA TRACKER in our Bitmoji classroom. It will be very important to support each other in order to make sure our class average reaches or surpasses our goal.

We will track our end of unit assessment average for each assessment throughout the school year. In order to reach this whole class goal, we must grow individually and as a group, supporting one another will push us to reach or exceed our goals.

Springboard

This year students in Algebra 1 will explore mathematics, make real-life connections, and become college-ready through a new curriculum at Hampstead Hill Academy called Springboard. This program is based on the “Understanding by Design” model, which suggests that beginning instruction with the end in mind is the best way to engage students, make them active learners, and ensure their academic success. The curriculum is built around assessments that are consistent with advanced placement (AP) and college readiness standards. Students are given clear learning objectives that emphasize why each lesson is beneficial.

Through direct lessons, guided lessons, and investigative lessons, students will prepare for quizzes, unit assessments, and to be successful in high school. We will use portfolio projects, class discussions, the math workshop model, debates, and hands-on activities to help us learn.

Students that successfully complete Algebra I Springboard coursework at the end of the year will earn honors-level credit from Baltimore City Public Schools, which adds additional weight to the grade you earn in class.

Intended Course Units

Unit 1: Equations and Inequalities

Unit 2: Functions

Unit 3: Extension of Linear Concepts

Unit 4: Exponents, radicals, and polynomials

Unit 5: Quadratic functions

Unit 6: Statistics and Probability

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Gain an understanding of the properties of real numbers
- Formalize the language of functions
- Explore the behavior of functions numerically, graphically, analytically, and verbally
- Use technology to discover relationships, test conjectures, and solve problems
- Write expressions, equations, and inequalities from physical models
- Communicate mathematics understanding formally and informally
- Use mathematical models
- Collaborate with others
- Challenge others
- Ask questions
- Engage in argument from evidence
- Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information
- Maintain an organized binder.
- Think critically
- Think about our thinking
- Track assessment data
- Set and meet personal goals
- Model six essential mindsets
- Exemplify the Leaders Go Places Five Promises

Grading System

Your grade is composed of three main components.

- **CLASSWORK:** 50%
- **ASSESSMENTS:** 40%
- **PARTICIPATION:** 10%

CLASSWORK

Exit Tickets/Classwork

Exit tickets are used to assess how well students mastered the key skills and content from the day's lesson. Additionally, each student will be given various classwork assignments. These assignments may include Springboard book pages, IXL practices, Edulastic assignments, Khan Academy, worksheets, and more. These assignments may be guided, small group, partner, or independent. Along the classwork assignments named, each student will maintain an interactive math journal that will be checked.

ASSESSMENTS

Assessments/Projects

There will be different forms of assessments used to determine how well students are understanding and mastering the content we are learning in class. In this category, mid-module assessments, unit assessments and individual projects are considered.

Quizzes

There will be quizzes almost every week. Quizzes are incremental ways to determine how well students have mastered the content from the current week. These quizzes also inform instruction and reviews before taking a unit assessment.

PARTICIPATION

Attending class every day is the first step to prepare for the important transition to high school. You are expected to complete every assignment to the best of your ability and participate in class by asking questions, answering questions, and productively working independently or collaboratively on assigned tasks with your classmates. Almost every week, students will receive a participation score for the week out of 10. The following are considered when determining your participation score:

- Attending and being present in classes
- Terp Start and exit ticket questions are answered completely with full effort at the beginning and end of class
- Asking and answering questions in class
- Actively engaging with whole class, partners, and independent work
- Collaborating with peers
- Showing work and thought process on assignments
- Assignments turned in on time

Office Hours

Everyday from 2:00pm - 2:50pm there will be an additional opportunity for support. There will be days that are specific for Pre-Algebra, days that specific students are requested to attend, and days that will be open to all students.

Coach Class

In order for every student to **THRIVE**, it is their responsibility to seek more help when they feel it will help them to **grow** or if it will help them to be successful on an assessment, as well as commit time outside of school for studying. Mrs. LB will be available from **3-4pm on most Tuesdays for coach class** if students need more help. If this time does not work for you, please reach out to Mrs. LB to schedule a different time.

Late Work

It is expected that all assignments are turned in on time. All assignments are due at 7:45M, the morning after they are assigned. If there are extenuating circumstances, the student must reach out to their teacher before the activity deadline.

Absences

Students are expected to be in class EVERY DAY ON TIME. Students are responsible for making up work after being absent from class. If there are extenuating circumstances, the student must reach out to their teacher as soon as possible. Lessons will be recorded and made accessible for students with excused absences and that reach out to Mrs. LB.

Need to leave class briefly?

Students are expected to be in class for the entire class period (so please use the bathroom before class). If there is an emergency, please be sure to chat Mrs. LB before you go and make it as quick as possible.

Websites / Technology

Zoom

Zoom will be the application that we will use for our classes, office hours, coach class and other meetings. All students will need to be logged into their @hha47.org accounts in order to join our Zoom sessions. Students are expected to login with their full first and last name for attendance purposes.

Google Classroom / Google Site / Bitmoji Classroom

This year we will use Google Classroom and Google Sites. This means that you will use Google classroom to complete some assignments during class. Mrs. LB will upload questions, surveys, worksheets, assessments, and other activities that you will be able to complete and submit all online. You will use your personal @hha47.org login and password to use for managing assignments. Therefore, it is essential that you remember your password. You can learn more at:

<https://www.google.com/edu/products/productivity-tools/classroom/>

Our Google Site is a resource for parents to stay up to date. On the website, you will find a calendar, newsletters, information about Mrs. LB, and more. Please use the website, along with Bloomz to find any information that you need about our classroom. This website's primary purpose is to serve families and guardians. You can find our website here:

<https://sites.google.com/bcps.k12.md.us/mathwithmrslb/home>

Our Bitmoji Classroom is a space where students will be able to find resources that we would typically find in our classroom. Some of these resources include our vocabulary wall, our class point point tracker, our data tracker, class job assignments, and more. This virtual classroom's primary purpose is to serve students. Be sure you are in the presentation view! You can find our bitmoji classroom here and on google classroom:

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/171K7bPXDLrCtJGcki4EvreB4kBtUasD0a46RVRHF3sk/edit?usp=sharing>

IXL

IXL is a practice website for all math grades and levels. We will primarily use this website for independent practice and additional support. For classwork assignments, students are typically expected to practice each assigned skill for 15 minutes or until they receive an 85 "Smart Score." Please check out our IXL login tutorial on our class site for support on using the website.

Khan Academy

We will occasionally use Khan Academy in class. Khan Academy is a free website that offers support for all grade levels. The website provides videos, explanations, practice problems, and quizzes. This site will be used to work on our fluency, as well as a resource for us to learn in different ways. Khan academy is a great resource for students and families to use to either support, supplement, or extend their content understanding.

Technical Difficulties?

If you are unable to login to a session during class time, please reach out to Mrs. LB via zoom. If Mrs. LB does not reply promptly, please text her at (443) 961-7065. If you were in a class session and got kicked out for some reason, please try to rejoin right away. Remember, all class links can be found on our google classroom page.

Behavioral Expectations

“Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.”

- Malcolm X

In addition to Hampstead Hill Academy’s school expectations, Mrs. LB believes that becoming productive citizens, pushing against injustice, and learning to THRIVE in education is just as important to learning academic skills when educating young people to be successful in college, career, and society. In fact, research proves it!

All students are expected to develop and utilize the following mindsets inside and outside of the classroom to help develop community:

Community: knowing a feeling of fellowship and understanding of others while respectfully communicating common attitudes, interests, and goals.

- **Love:** A great interest in something
- **Solidarity:** Mutual support within a group
- **Resilience:** Using your strengths to recover quickly from difficulties and setbacks
- **Joy:** A feeling of happiness
- **Well-Being:** A state of being comfortable, healthy, and happy

Individual Rewards and Consequences

Examples of Rewards for Positive Behavior	Consequences for Negative Behavior
Verbal Praise Praise Note* Phone call home* Lunch with Teacher Leaders Go Places Merits Class Points Strong Participation Grade	Verbal Warning Leaders Go Places Demerit Teacher Conference Family Conference*

**These consequences also involve family communication.*

Class Point System

When the class is meeting expectations during class, the Point Tracker will add marbles (<https://toytheater.com/marble-jar/>) to their class jar and give the class points on the tracking board. Expectations include, but are not limited to:

BEHAVIOR	POINT VALUE
100% ON-TASK	+ 2
EFFICIENT TRANSITION	
JOY <i>(active participation, high energy)</i>	
ON-TASK ENTRY	+ 5
100% ON-TIME ATTENDANCE	
ACHIEVE ASSESSMENT BIG GOAL (80% class average for each unit assessment)	+ 10
ACHIEVE OVERALL BIG GOAL (85% class average at marking period)	+ 20
CLASS WITH THE MOST AVERAGE IXL PRACTICE MINUTES	+ 25

The class with the most points at the end of each quarter will be eligible for a class reward!

Bloomz

Mrs. LB will use Bloomz to track student behavior and to communicate with students and parents about positive and negative behaviors. **All families will be given a code to connect their students and guardians.** It is incredibly important that guardians connect to Bloomz to track student progress.

Contacting Mrs. LB

You should contact Mrs. LB whenever you have questions or concerns about anything. First, you will **go to office hours / coach class for support and extra help**. If you have remaining questions, you will **ask Mrs. LB for support through Bloomz**. Guardians are encouraged to contact Mrs. LB at anytime via Bloomz.

Contract for Success:

- I have read the course syllabus.
- I understand what Mrs. LB expects of me in class.
- I know what will happen when I meet expectations.
- I know what will happen if I do not meet expectations.
- I will work hard to be respectful, responsible, organized, and ready to learn.
- I will contribute to our class community during activities, lessons, and discussions.
- I will do the best I can to grow and support the growth of my peers, so we can work to achieve our best future.

Your Name (Print)

Your Signature

Date