

### **Text**

Brown, Richard G., et al., *Algebra: Structure and Method Book 1*,  
Boston MA: Houghton Mifflin, 1994

### **Expectations/Guidelines**

1. **Pay close attention** in class. **Ask questions** if a concept is not understood.  
**Actively participate** in class and group activities.
2. **Study!** Review homework problems, quizzes and tests. Study flashcards. Study vocabulary. **Practice many, many problems.** Students who do not practice problems cannot expect to do well.
3. **Complete nightly homework.** All homework problems are to be attempted on paper.  
This is the only way I know that the student has tried the problems. Written work helps me see the student's thought processes and where the difficulties are.
4. **Correct problems** as we go over them in class.
5. Students should expect "pop" **quizzes.**
6. **Tests** will be announced at least one week in advance.
7. **Late work** turned in one day past due is graded at 50% of the total possible points.  
Work turned in more than one day late receives a grade of 0%.
8. **Attendance is crucial** to your child's success.

### **Materials**

1. Covered math text
2. Notebook
3. Expandable folder with a pocket dedicated to math
4. Loose leaf paper
5. Writing utensils including a red pencil for grading
6. Assignment book

### **Class Format**

1. Students may ask questions about the previous night's homework.
2. Homework is checked. Students have time to make some corrections while we go over additional homework questions.
3. New math material is introduced. Examples are done with the students.

4. Students practice the skill on individual whiteboards, at the blackboard or in small group activities.
5. Homework for the night is assigned. If there is time, students begin their assignment.

### **Grading Policy**

1. Grade is calculated from total points earned out of total possible points.
2. Tests are announced.
3. Quizzes are announced and unannounced.
4. Homework is worth 3 to 15 points. Unfinished problems or excessive mistakes result in a lower score.
5. Extra credit points may be earned by completing a weekly extra credit assignment. The extra credit assignment is returned for corrections. When corrections are made, points are awarded.

### **Content**

Until the November 19<sup>th</sup> private high school test date, along with covering the new curriculum, we review basic skills daily. It slows us down a bit in covering new material, but it is essential to do. Students from past years have told me it helps tremendously to practice problems and to practice the test format, so we spend a good amount of time doing just that.

Real Numbers – Operations, Properties  
Solving Equations and Problems  
Polynomials  
Factoring Polynomials  
Fractions/Applying Fractions  
Functions  
Systems of Linear Equations  
Inequalities  
Rational and Irrational Numbers  
Quadratic Functions