

Mill Creek Middle School

Course Name: Algebra

Grade Level: 8th

Teacher name: Mr. Kyle Miller

Teacher Contact Information:

Classroom Phone: 734-424-4150 x5201

Teacher email: millerk@dexterschools.org

Team website: <http://gmsteam.weebly.com/>

Team Conference period: 8:15-9:25 am

Course description:

Algebra emphasizes problem solving, critical thinking, communication, connections among mathematical topics, and connections between math and other subject areas. We'll use multiple representations to help solidify complex ideas, and explore the applications of our learning beyond the classroom. We'll do activities and projects to practice the use of our math skills, and will often work in pairs or groups.

Course Goals, Topics to be Covered:

Our learning this year will be guided by the High School Course Content Expectations for Algebra 1, as set forth by the State of Michigan. These content expectations describe what any student in the state must be able to do to earn high school graduation credit for Algebra 1. The Algebra 1 curriculum is divided into 3 Strands. Each strand has multiple standards and each standard has core expectations with specific goals. Below you will find an overview of the relevant strands and standards.

Quantitative Literacy and Logic

Standards: L1: Reasoning About Numbers, Systems and Quantitative Situations

L2: Calculation, Algorithms, and Estimation

Algebra and Functions (A)

Standards: A1: Expressions, Equations, and Inequalities

A2: Functions

A3: Families of Functions

Statistics and Probability

Standards: S2: Bivariate Data - Examining Relationships

For a complete list of each core expectation, please visit the Michigan Department of Education website at: http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-38924_41644_42668---,00.html

Textbook and Website:

McDougal Littell. Algebra 1. 2007

Textbook Website: <http://www.classzone.com/cz/index.htm>

Materials:

Required Math Supplies: A 1" 3-ring binder with lined paper, dividers, & pencils, pencils, pencils

Optional Math Supplies: TI-83+ or TI-84+ graphing calculator (strongly recommended) or a graphing calculator app. on an iPod or app. phone. Note: Students will not be allowed to use iPod or phone based calculators on tests and exams. Several TI-84 calculators will be available to borrow during assessments when needed. TI-89 calculators are *not* recommended, and will not be allowed on assessments.

Grading system and Criteria for Evaluation:

Please see our Team Policies document for a detailed explanation of Mill Creek's grading system.

Guide to Resources/Tools for Student Success:

Mill Creek Math Department Website:

<https://sites.google.com/a/dexterschools.org/mcmath/home>

8th Grade Math GLCE's Link:

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/Math_08_87416_7.pdf

Mr. Miller's Math Website (found on team website):

<http://millcreekteam8.weebly.com>

Online Course Specific Resources in Moodle:

<http://moodle.dexterschools.org>

Textbook Website:

ONLINE TEXTBOOK, TUTORIALS & GAMES!

McDougall-Littell provides a fabulous website as a resource for students and parents. This website offers:

- step-by-step verbal tutorials for each section in the textbook. If a student needs a refresher course after hearing the explanation in school, he/she can listen to the tutorial online at home. Also, if a student is home sick from school, he/she will still be able to access a tutorial for the math topics taught in class that day.
- an online version of the textbook itself. This is an exact replica of our entire textbook. Students with reliable internet access may use this as a way to access the book without carrying it back and forth to school each day.
- flashcards and many extra practice problems (with answers) for students and/or parents.
- interactive games and activities linked to each chapter of the textbook.
- practice assessments.