

Welcome to Algebra I Honors
Mr. Murphy
Room: 306
585-454-3525 extension 3060
Kevin.Murphy@rcsdk12.org

Dear Students,

My name is Mr. Murphy, and I am very excited to be working with you this year in Algebra I Honors! This is going to be a challenging, exciting, and yes, even sometimes fun year of math! Algebra helps to build the fundamental math knowledge you will need for all of your future high school math classes and beyond. I challenge you to strive for **EXCELLENCE**, and display your **COMMITMENT** to your success every day! That is what you will get from me!

Curriculum

Algebra I is a Common Core curriculum course, and we will be following the Common Core curriculum as interpreted by New York State and implemented in the Rochester City School District. We will also be demonstrating the Mathematical Practices as outlined as part of the Common Core curriculum.

Grading Policy: Your grade each marking period will be broken down as follows:

Homework:	10%
Quizzes:	20%
Classwork and Participation:	30%
Exams:	40%

In addition, you will be scheduled to take, and expected to pass, the Algebra I Common Core Regents exam in June 2016.

Resources:

Materials – Binder, pen/pencil, completed homework. I **strongly recommend** that you obtain a graphing calculator in order to complete assignments at home. The TI-84 family of calculators is recommended. These can be found in many local stores, as well as on the internet, including such places as Craigslist and eBay. There are also applications that emulate these calculators that are available for most smartphones and computers. Most of these applications are free!

Absences/Instructional Time:

Good attendance is extremely important for student success. If you are absent, it is **your** responsibility to make up all homework, class work, notes and tests. Make-up exams are to be taken as arranged with me. If legally absent, students will have up to 10 days to complete any missed work. **No** points will be given for missed assignments due to illegal absences. If you know ahead of time that you will be absent, please bring me a note from your parent/guardian, and I will do my best to provide you with the work we will be covering in your absence. In addition, all lessons and assignments will be available on my teacher webpage at <http://www.rcsdk12.org/Page/35956>.

Maximizing instructional time will be a key to your success. If you are not in class, you cannot learn. If you have a valid reason for missing instructional time, please bring in a note from your parent/guardian and I will accommodate your needs. In addition, in accordance with school policy you will not be excused from class to use the bathroom, nor for any other reason that is not an emergency, during the first and last 10 minutes of class.

Ways to be Successful in my Classroom:

1. Be respectful
2. Be responsible
3. Follow the RCSD Code of Conduct
4. Hold yourself accountable for your actions
5. Be an active participant in the learning process
6. Come to class on time, prepared (materials, work, and attitude) and ready to learn!

Additional Support:

I believe that in order for students to be successful, they have to be supported both in school and at home. My door is open the majority of the time I am in the building. Students are free to use me as a resource, especially for additional math help/tutoring. I am also available after school almost every day of the week. In the event I have a meeting or some work to complete, my door may be closed or I may limit the time I am available for my students, but I try my best to make sure I am available for them whenever I can be.

Statement of Commitment:

Math is the subject people love to hate. It is a challenge for many, but it is a challenge that can be overcome. I believe that **anyone** can be successful in math if they are willing to put in the work. It is my opinion that more than any other subject you study, the only way to get good at math is to **do math!** This means that every day you will need to come to class **on time, focused, and ready to give 100%.** If there is ever anything that prevents you from being able to do this on a particular day, please feel free to speak to me about it as you enter the class. I will do my best to accommodate your needs, and make sure we keep you connected until you can return to your full capacity. I commit to keeping the class as challenging, upbeat, engaging, accessible to all students, and as fun as possible! I am **committed** to your success, and **I BELIEVE IN YOU!** Together we will be successful this year!

Nathaniel Rochester Community School

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Rochester, New York 14608
Telephone (585) 454-3525
Fax (585) 262-8938



SOAR...
Safe
Outstanding
Accountable
Respectful

Classroom Management Plan

Rules

- 1. Be respectful**
- 2. Be responsible**
- 3. Be ready to learn**
- 4. Use your time in class wisely**

POSITIVES

- 1. Verbal Praise**
- 2. Positive Phone Call**
- 3. Good deed referral**
- 4. Student of the week**
- 5. Lunch bunch**

Consequences

- 1. Verbal reminder**
- 2. Reflection Sheet (in classroom)**
- 3. Reconnect Room**
- 4. Parent Contact**
- 5. Detention Essay, with parent signature (at home)**
- 6. Administration**

ALGEBRA I HONORS

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am very excited to be working with your child this year in Algebra I Honors. I believe that parental involvement/support is a major part of a student's success. In order for me to communicate with you, please read the attached syllabus, and fill out this form and return it as soon as possible, as this will count as your child's first homework assignment. I look forward to working together with you so that your child will be successful.

Sincerely,
Kevin Murphy

Your Child's Name: _____

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) first and last names _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Best time to contact? _____ Best time to contact? _____

Work Phone: _____

Best time to contact? _____

Email _____

Do you prefer to be contacted via phone or email? _____

Is there any information you would like me to know about your child? (Ex: strengths, difficulties etc.?)

What suggestions can you offer me to help your child to be successful in Algebra I?

Please sign and date below to acknowledge that you have read the syllabus:

Signature Date