



**Welcome to Pre-Algebra!** This year will be full of new opportunities for us to learn and grow as individuals and as a whole class. I look forward to introducing you to new mathematical concepts that are both interesting and useful. As we begin this new school year, it is important to discuss with you the three principles that everyone, including myself, will uphold in the classroom:

Respect	Communication	Effort
<p>Show respect for yourself and others at all times.</p> <p>Respect all school property and the property of others.</p> <p>Respect the opportunity for others to learn by listening to the teacher and other students.</p> <p>Use appropriate academic language in the classroom at all times.</p> <p>Turn off all cell phones, iPods, and other electronics when entering the classroom.</p>	<p>Be honest with the teacher and with classmates.</p> <p>Raise your hand to ask a question any time something does not make sense.</p> <p>If you will be tardy or absent, let the teacher know ahead of time.</p> <p>Talk with the teacher or fellow students, or check the website to find out what you've missed.</p> <p>Get extra help whenever you need it during tutorial, or before or after school.</p>	<p>Come to class every day on time and prepared to learn.</p> <p>Bring with you to class each day: textbook, binder, pencil, lined paper, graph paper, exotic pen, and scientific calculator.</p> <p>Do your very best on all assignments.</p> <p>Cooperate with others when working in groups.</p> <p>Schedule an appointment with me before school, after school, or during tutorial to receive extra help.</p>

**Please note:** disregarding classroom principles and policies will result in one or more of the following: verbal warning, seat change, trash pick-up, phone call home, conference with the teacher, detention, behavior contract, administrative referral, or Saturday school.

**Tests and Quizzes** will be given to assess understanding throughout the semester. The Pre-Algebra team of teachers has divided each chapter into specific concepts and skills that we want you to master. Quizzes will take place approximately every Friday and students will be allowed multiple opportunities to re-quiz in order to master each concept. Quizzes are graded on a scale of 0 – 4 points; a student must achieve two perfect scores of 4 to have mastered the concept. Cumulative tests will be given periodically during the semester and will be announced in advance. Tests are generally worth approximately 100 points each. A cumulative final exam will be given at the end of each semester.

**Homework** will be assigned every day. Please see the Homework Guidelines for more details.

**Participation** is an important part of learning. Actively participating in class discussions and group work, as well as asking questions when they arise, will not only help you to succeed but also improve the learning of your fellow classmates. Although not directly a part of a student's cumulative grade, active participation may earn you extra credit toward your final grade.



**Absences** take valuable class time away from you. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to get caught up on everything you missed – notes, homework, projects, etc. All of this information may be obtained from my website. Unexcused absences will result in a zero grade for all assignments (including tests and quizzes) due that day. If you are absent from school for only part of the day, any assignments are expected to be turned in the same day.

**Tardies** disrupt the class and the teacher, and will thus adversely affect the entire class performance. Continued tardy behavior will be detrimental to your grade. Don't be rude – be on time.

1-3 tardies Verbal warning

4-6 tardies Detention

7-9 tardies Administrative referral, Saturday school

10+ tardies SARB referral, Saturday school

**Grades** are calculated using a weighted average: tests are worth 40%, quizzes are worth 30%, homework is worth 20%, and the final exam is worth 10%. Grade reports may be accessed online through the IUSD Parent Portal. The grading scale is as follows:

100	A+	89-87	B+	79-77	C+	69-67	D+	59 or below is a failing grade!
99-93	A	86-83	B	76-73	C	66-63	D	
92-90	A-	82-80	B-	72-70	C-	62-60	D-	

**Cheating** is absolutely unacceptable and will result in a grade of ZERO for the assignment and an administrative referral. This includes, but is not limited to, copying another student's homework or exam, unauthorized use of a calculator, or using a cell phone or iPod during an exam. See [www.woodbridgehigh.org](http://www.woodbridgehigh.org) for the school-wide Academic Honesty policy.

**Need help?** I am available at tutorial or after school, as well as by appointment. The After School Tutoring Center is open Monday through Thursday in the Media Center after school – I am available to help out in the ASTC on Thursday afternoons. PLEASE come speak to me about anything – I am always willing to help, no matter how small the problem.

**For more information** please see my website at [whs.saba.do](http://whs.saba.do). Important information, including assignments, upcoming exam dates, and announcements may all be found on my website. You may also email me at [math@saba.do](mailto:math@saba.do) – please allow a day or two for a response.

These principles encompass my classroom rules and outline the expectations for all members of this classroom, including myself. I promise to do my very best as your teacher by living by these principles. By respecting each other, communicating effectively, and putting our best effort forward, we will make this year both productive and enjoyable. Thank you in advance for your time and support.

Best,

*Ryan Sabado*

Ryan Sabado  
Math Teacher