Welcome to Pre-Algebra! I am very excited to go along with you on your journey towards understanding algebra. Our primary resource for this course is called Open Up Resources. It is a resource that incorporates collaboration and exploration of our topics for an in-depth study of the Grade 8 Common Core State Standards for Mathematics (CCSSM). To the left is a link to a Google Slide Deck syllabus that provides further course-specific information.

Our lessons will cover all of the major areas for the Grade 8 CCSSM which include:

- Functions
- Expressions and Equations
- Statistics and Probability
- Geometry
- The Number System

I will keep a running document of the exact standards that we cover as they are assessed that can be accessed here. (Please note a digital copy of this syllabus is provided in your child's Google Classroom with active links).

**Resources:** Our primary resource is Open Up Resources which is authored by Illustrative Mathematics. Another resource we will use is Khan Academy.org. This website has lessons and practice exercises that have been aligned to our curriculum.

**Materials:** Please bring to each class:

- Open Up Resources current unit workbook
- Charged Chromebook
- 2 pocket folder with graph paper
- Writing utensil, preferably a pencil scientific calculator
- Ruler

**Assessments:** Students will be assessed on the CCSSM Grade 8 skills and these skills will be associated with one or more of the Common Core Math Standards of Practice. There are eight Math Practice Standards and Introduction of Algebra has been assigned to focus on four of them:

- MP 2: Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
- MP 6: Attend to precision.
- MP 4: Model with mathematics.
- MP 8: Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.
The Standards of Practice (also referred to as Anchor Standards) describe the habits and dispositions of mathematicians. The emphasis is on helping students develop and refine their problem-solving skills over rote memorization.

**Habits of Work for Learning:** Preparation, Participation, and Perseverance will be assessed on a daily basis. Preparation and Participation will be tied to classroom behavior. Perseverance will be associated with the completion of remote work. Each checkpoint, students will have the opportunity to self-assess these areas using the WUHSMS rubric and I will provide feedback prior to this score report.

**Classroom Expectations:**
1. Arrive on time, get math materials out, and put your Chromebook in your desk basket until you are told to take it out.
2. Listen and follow directions.
3. Raise your hand to speak during class discussions.
4. Keep your hands and feet to yourself (Maintain social distance).
5. Respect your classmates, your teacher, and school property.
6. You may bring a water bottle and have a snack during your “10-minute mask break”.
7. Cell phones and wireless earbuds are not permitted unless you are told to use them for a class activity.
8. Students may leave the classroom one at a time to go to the nurse, bathroom, office, etc. You must sign out and back in.
9. Wait to be dismissed.

**Consequences:**
1. If you fail to meet expectations, you will receive a polite request to discontinue the misbehavior.
2. If you continue to misbehave you will meet with me at the end of class.
3. If the misbehavior continues over multiple class-blocks:
   a. Your parents will be contacted
   b. You will be required to complete a reflection sheet.
4. Ongoing or severe misbehavior will be referred to the Dean of Students’ Office.

**Assessment of Learning:**
For information about assessment types, scoring, and overall grade calculation: click here.

**Communication:**
**How Do I Access Work from Home, and What Should I Expect?**
- All work will be posted in Google Classroom.
- The work will be explained during our in-person meetings and/or by a video posted to Google Classroom.
- The work will also be explained in our Class Planner posted to Google Classroom.
- If you have any questions, email your teacher.
How Do I Know What My Grades Are?

- On Summative Assessments, teachers will provide both a 4-point grade and a letter grade.
- You can monitor your progress in the following ways:
  - By reading feedback and scoring returned to students on summative assessments.
  - By monitoring the scores and Overall Course Mastery Grade in the Parent/Student portal on JumpRope. Reminders to check grades will be sent from the school.
  - Communicating with your teacher if you are unclear.

Where Can I Find This Syllabus during the School Year?

- This syllabus will be available on the school website in each subject’s department tab once the school year is up and running. It will also be available in our Google Classroom.

How Do I See What’s Due?

- Assignment and summative assessment due dates with handouts are posted in Google Classroom, with connection to Google Calendar, for student access.

How Do I See What’s Past Due?

- If a student is missing a grade on an assessment, it will be listed in the red “Missing Assessment” section of the JumpRope Parent/Student Portal along with any attachments. Please contact your teacher if you have any questions.

Schoolwide Procedures:

Please see the Student Handbook for Procedures and Policies related to: Due dates and deadlines, extra credit, retaking assessments, and turnaround time for grade entry.