



# Morgan Road Middle School

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Algebra I Ms C. Michele Clark Course Syllabus 2018-2019

Welcome students and parents to your 8<sup>th</sup> grade school year 2018-2019. My name is Ms. Clark and I will be teaching 8<sup>th</sup> grade Algebra I. I am excited to have you on this journey, your last stop before high school.

### Course Description and Objectives

The Eighth Grade Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) for Algebra I. Algebra I is the first course in a sequence of three required high school courses designed to ensure career and college readiness. The course represents a discrete study of algebra with correlated statistics applications. The standards in the three-course high school sequence specify the mathematics that all students should study in order to be college and career ready. Additional mathematics content is provided in fourth credit courses and advanced courses including pre-calculus, calculus, advanced statistics, discrete mathematics, and mathematics of finance courses. High school course content standards are listed by conceptual categories including Number and Quantity, Algebra, Functions, Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. Conceptual categories portray a coherent view of high school mathematics content; a student's work with functions, for example, crosses a number of traditional course boundaries, potentially up through and including calculus. Standards for Mathematical Practice provide the foundation for instruction and assessment.

### Major Course Goals

The fundamental purpose of Algebra I is to formalize and extend the mathematics that students learned in the middle grades. The critical areas, organized into units, deepen and extend understanding of functions by comparing and contrasting linear, quadratic, and exponential phenomena. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations. The pacing suggested below will allow students to gain a foundation in linear, quadratic, and exponential functions before they are brought together to be compared/contrasted in Unit 5. Although units 2, 3, and 4 look lengthy in terms of the number of standards, only their application to one function type per unit will be addressed. As key characteristics of functions are introduced in unit 2 and revisited within units 3, 4, and 5, students will gain a deeper understanding of such concepts as domain and range, intercepts, increasing/decreasing, relative maximum/minimum, symmetry, end behavior, and the effect of function parameters. Unit 5 will also provide an excellent opportunity for review of many concepts in preparation for the administration of the Georgia Milestones EOC assessment.

### Instructional Philosophy

I believe that all students can learn and that learning can take place through a struggle. I will support, challenge, and guide you on this journey of loving knowledge.

All lessons are design to align with the Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) for Algebra I. Refer to the Georgia Department of Education for a complete description of the standards

<https://www.georgiastandards.org/Georgia-Standards/Frameworks/Algebra-I-Comprehensive-Course-Overview.pdf>

### Major Course Projects and Instructional Activities

Units at a Glance	
1 <sup>st</sup> Semester	Unit 1: Relationship Between Quantities & Expressions Unit 2: Reasoning with Linear Equations & Inequalities Unit 3: Modeling & Analyzing Exponential Function
2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester	Unit 4: Modeling & Analyzing Quadratic Functions Unit 5: Comparing & Contrasting Functions Unit 6: Describing Data Unit 7: Algebra II Preview

### Course Assessment Plan

Attendance and participation in all classes is expected of all students. Students will receive a variety of assignments designed to enhance their learning. Students will have homework Monday –Friday, as needed. Similar to practicing sports before the game, homework is the necessary practice to improve in learning. If a student is absent, the student is responsible for the missed assignment. In the classroom, there is a designated file holder for students who have missed work. The student is in charge of making sure he/she remembers to pick up, complete, and turn in missing work. All work is due within 5 days after the student has returned. If the student misses a quiz or test, the student must inform Ms. Clark immediately upon return in order to schedule a day and time to take it. If a student misses any uninformed pop quizzes, they will be informed by Ms. Clark and scheduled a time to complete this assignment.

## Evaluation

Percentage	Form of Assessment	Explanation
35%	Summative Assessments and Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tests are administered within or upon completion of each unit.</li> <li>• Projects may be group or individual assignments.</li> <li>• Minimum of three per grading period</li> </ul>
30%	Quizzes (announced and unannounced)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the completion of each indicator (at least 1 per week)</li> </ul>
25%	Classwork	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Classwork will be graded individually</li> <li>• Includes all daily work</li> </ul>
10%	Homework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homework will be assigned as needed during the week to enhance learning.</li> </ul>

## Classroom Expectations

Students will be expected to follow the RCSS code of conduct and MRMS expectations. Specifically, for 8<sup>th</sup> grade Algebra I, students will be expected to

1. Respect yourself, peers, all adults, and the property of others.
2. Raise your hand and wait to be recognized.
3. Remain seated until permission is given.
4. Listen attentively during instruction.
5. Work in a safe manner at all times.

### Expectations

Follow all school rules and policies R<sup>2</sup>B

- Being Respectful
- Being Responsible
- Be a Leader

## Classroom Procedures & Expectations

1. Enter into the classroom, orderly, quietly and take your seat.
2. Take care of all instructional needs (sharpening pencils, getting materials, or visiting wastebasket) prior to the start of class. This must be done within the first minute of coming to class.
3. Work on the beginning class activity as soon as you are seated.
4. If you are tardy, you must have a pass from either the office or teacher that kept you late.
5. During assessments you are to raise your hand if you have a question and I will come to you. Always bring a book to read after you finish your test as not everyone will finish the test at the same time. Remember, We are Growing Lexiles!
6. During class work, raise your hand and I will come to you and if I am with another student, wait patiently and I will get to your question. Remember to refer to an anchor chart if needed.
7. Do not stand up, pack your book bag, clear off your desk or leave the classroom until instructed to do so.
8. During a fire or tornado drill, remain calm and walk quietly to our designated areas.
9. During any announcements be quiet and listen until they are finished.

## Course Materials

Notebook Paper (Plenty)    Pencils (Plenty)    Pens (Black/Blue)    Highlighters    Colored Pencils (No Crayons)  
 Hand-held pencil sharpener    1" binder    Dividers    Pencil Pouch    Composition Book    Personal Items (Kleenex, Hand sanitizer)

## Homework Policy and Grading Scale

Homework Policy and Grading Scale will be the same policies adopted by RCBOE.

## Time and Place to be Reached by Parent

Email: [clarkcr@richmond.k12.ga.us](mailto:clarkcr@richmond.k12.ga.us)

WebPage: <http://www.rcboe.org/Domain/7787>

## Conferences

In order to schedule a conference with your teachers, please contact the Guidance Office 706-796.4992 ext. 106.



...Be Inspired!!

# Morgan Road Middle School

## Student Contact Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom \_\_\_\_\_

I have received the 2018-19 8<sup>th</sup> grade Algebra I syllabus.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Do you and your child have internet access at home? (Circle one) YES NO

2. Do you and your child have computer access at home? (Circle one) YES NO

3. I there anything else about your child that you would like me to know? (Circle and explain)

a) allergies                      b) bathroom problems (attach doctor note)                      c) medical condition

\_\_\_\_\_

## Parent Contact Information (please print legibly below): Check best way to contact.

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Work phone # and hours \_\_\_\_\_

Is it okay to text your phone? (Circle One) YES NO

**Brag Letter** (Parents...this is your opportunity to tell me anything about your child) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signing this acknowledges that I will strive for success by working hard, having high expectations, and never giving up. I have read and understand the syllabus.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_