

August 15, 2008

Parents of Mrs. Maupin's Math Students:

This year my ninth grade math class, we continue to use the research-based math curriculum called **Algebraic Thinking**. It follows the standards for the state of Arizona and uses a multi-sensory approach to math. It involves using visual approaches, auditory drills, and manipulatives that are so important for long term retention of math skills. Check out their website at www.AlgebraicThinking.com. This will better prepare students for taking the Terra Nova, the ninth grade state test, in the Spring. **Daily attendance** and **participation** are critical for the learning to be optimized for each student. I appreciate your support in this regard. Supplemental materials will be used to review calculation skills with students depending on their IEP goals or individual needs.

I sign planners **every Friday**. I collect grades on a daily basis. I do not always have an exact percentage each week due to Thursday or Friday work yet to be graded, but I will inform you weekly about Pass, Fail, or Incomplete. Behavior will also be addressed. I expect each student to **fill out the planner daily** for points. If absent, the student is responsible for copying the planner from a classmate. The student is also responsible for asking me for the make-up work. **Late work** is accepted, but the grade is lowered if one day late. If late a second day, detention is issued. Participation points will be issued daily, five per day. Points can be deducted for not having materials or lack of effort, for example. Chewing gum and arriving tardy to class will be a thirty minute detention.

My **grading scale** is as follows:

100%-90%= A

89%- 80% = B

79%- 70% = C

69%-60%= D

59% and below= F

Bonus points are given at teacher's discretion.

Any student who falls **below 65%** will be put on a **FANG** contract. This means extra study time will be required with me until that grade is at 70% or higher. As a parent, you will be informed by signing the contract along with me and the student.

Homework will be given periodically to review skills. . If homework is not returned completed the next day, a consequence is issued. All students are urged to practice extra problems or drill math facts at home. This can only enhance learning.

I am looking forward to watching your child grow even more this year using **Algebraic Thinking**. When the parent, teacher, and student work together, great things happen!

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Phone (480) 472-9919 or email- pjmaupin@mpsaz.org

Mrs. Maupin

Department Chairperson, Special Education

SLD English, Grades 8-9 SLD Math, Grade 9

Just a **reminder Cell phones** are not allowed to be turned on in class or used in the building by students. If it rings in class, it will be taken away and turned into the office.

