# Classroom Expectations –Algebra 1 Mr. Toro

Welcome to Algebra I. Algebra I is the first course of The New York State regents courses offered in mathematics. This course helps to develop the ability to think creatively and critically in both mathematical and non-mathematical situations. Each student will use mathematics to gain knowledge, learn methods of inquiry and to use these in interdisciplinary applications. The topics we will discuss this year include algebra, geometry, probability, and statistics. Many of these topics are asked on various standardized tests and college entrance examinations.

## Expectations- Students are to maintain a respectful and courteous attitude towards each other and towards me at ALL TIMES. Students must also be punctual to class and prepared to work at all times. Food or drink is NOT PERMITTED in class. A small water bottle is the only exception.

Attendance is a concern in any class but is especially vital in mathematics where we will be studying new, complex concepts in which lessons build upon the knowledge of the previous day’s topic. I expect all of my students to participate in class. I believe a math class should be run like a gym class, where the students are actively engaged in the day’s activity. This will help the student end in success and mastery of the topic. A student is accountable for missed class time for any reason including but not limited to: health, field trips, guidance appointments, music lessons, etc. If a student is absent the day of class, the student is responsible for that day’s notes and has a *one-day leniency* to complete the homework. Students are responsible to inform me 2 weeks prior to any upcoming vacations. Homework will be assigned often. Quizzes and tests are a large percentage of the quarter’s grades. Tests and quizzes will always be announced.

**Online Resources –**

* Online Grade book: www.teacherease.com
  + More information to follow how to access.
* Cluster Webpage: http://grade8team.weebly.com
  + Homework assignments and general announcements will be posted
* Online Notes / Practice Problems: www.regentsprep.org, www.kutasoftware.com, www.khanacademy.com, www.learnzillion.com, www.youtube.com (YouTube is an excellent resource to find online tutorial videos)

## Required Materials-

* Math devoted 1 ½ “ – 2” HARD loose-leaf binder
* 2 Dividers for 2 sections
  + Label Each
    - Class Notes
    - Homework
* Pencil or Pen
* TI 84 Graphing Calculator (OPTIONAL TO BUY)
* Scientific Calculator at home (there are many smart phone apps that allow you to graph or use the higher functions of a scientific calculator)

**Grading Policy –**

**20%** - Homework **10%** - Portfolio **25%** - Participation / Classwork **25%** - Quizzes **20%** - Tests

This is a challenging course, if you are willing to work hard then you will find it both interesting and rewarding. Remember: You can lead a horse to the water but you can’t make him drink.