



## Math Strategies/Algebra 1 Syllabus 2024-25

Teacher's Name: Mr. Rafferty and Mrs. Cortes

Room Number: 232

School Phone: (864) 355-1642

Email: [srafferty@greenville.k12.sc.us](mailto:srafferty@greenville.k12.sc.us) , [hcortes@greenville.k12.sc.us](mailto:hcortes@greenville.k12.sc.us)

Website: [Link](#) (see BHS staff directory)

### Course Description:

The aim of Algebra I is to develop skills needed to solve problems and communicate mathematically. Major topics include the concept of a variable, algebraic expressions, linear equations, number patterns, tables, graphs, inequalities, nonlinear equations, matrices, and applications of methods used to solve real world problems. Mastery of Algebra I goals will prepare students for college and careers.

Algebra I is a single credit course required for high school graduation. It is the first high school level math course and the bridge to higher level mathematics. There is a state mandated test called the **End Of Course Exam** that every student taking Algebra 1 must take.

### Course Standards, Learning Objectives, and Course Outline:

SC Algebra 1 standards ([click here to view standards](#)) will be the instructional focus of this course and presented using the following course outline:

- General Arithmetic
- Solving Equations
- Polynomials
- Linear Functions
- Systems of Equations
- Quadratic Functions

### Materials for this Course:

- Charged Chromebook
- Notebook
- Pencil

### Course Grading Policies:

Student progress in this course will be monitored through classwork assignments, quizzes, activities, unit tests and projects.

#### Quarter Grades:

10% - Classwork Assignments  
30% - Quizzes & Activities  
60% - Unit Test & Projects(3-4)

#### Semester Grade:

40% - 1st nine weeks  
40% - 2nd nine weeks  
20% - End of Course Exam

#### Grading Scale:

A 90-100  
B 80-89  
C 70-79  
D 60-69  
F 0-59

Students are strongly encouraged to keep a record of all assignments, dates, and grades.

### Assignment Policy:

Assignments will be assigned after each lesson for practice to reinforce the skills that have been taught. It is to the student's advantage to complete all assignments. Assignments without necessary scratchwork will not be

accepted. Doing daily assignments is the best way to keep up with the course. Quizzes and other assignments serve to keep previously learned skills sharp. Classwork assignment and quiz grades will count as minor grades. There will be 12 -20 per nine weeks. There will be 3-5 major grades (tests and projects) per nine weeks.

Extended time, small group and oral administrations will be given to students with accommodations as previously determined in the student's IEP/504/ILAP if applicable.

#### **Honor Code:**

Berea High School has adopted an honor code. I have included this portion here for your reference.

“As a student at Berea High School, I understand the expectations of the school's Honor Code; I acknowledge the rules regarding academic integrity and realize the serious consequences of my violation of those rules.”

#### **Late Work Policy/Makeup Policy:**

- Any work missed due to an excused absence is posted in Google Classroom or will be provided to the student upon their return and needs to be completed within 5 class days of the student's return to school. It is the student's responsibility to keep up with missed notes and assignments.
- Work assigned is expected to be completed by the assigned due date.
- It remains the responsibility of the student to turn in work **even if it is late**.
- Students should complete all missing assignments including projects, quizzes, tests, and any other assignment deemed a major assignment by the teacher.
- Makeup quizzes and tests will need to be arranged with Mr. Rafferty upon return to school from an absence.
- Teachers will handle unique situations on a case-by-case basis, and have the autonomy to determine whether they will accept work beyond the 5 days for credit.

#### **Extra Help:**

Extra help/tutoring is available upon request. Students should work with the teacher to schedule an agreed upon time.

#### **Redo/Retake:**

- Students wishing to resubmit an assignment must meet with the teacher and schedule a time for relearning and redoing the assignment. Resubmitted assignments will be entered into the gradebook within a week
- Students will be able to make test corrections to earn 50% of the missed points. (Example: A student who earned a 70 on a test can earn up to an 85 with corrections). Corrections will be optional and offered to all students.

#### **Classroom Expectations:**

Berea High School expects every student to do their best, work hard and treat everyone with dignity and respect. In addition to these general school wide expectations, I have a few classroom specific guidelines when followed, ensuring the success of all students in the class.

- **Be on Time:** Students need to be in the classroom BEFORE the bell rings. I will close the door at that time.
- **Be Prepared:** Students need to bring paper, pencils, and other required materials to class every period. Pencils are sharpened BEFORE the bell rings.
- **Try your Hardest:** Students should put their best effort into all classroom activities. Success begins with a strong and hearty effort. Extra help is always available to those who need it.
- **Utilize your Time Wisely:** Students should engage in academic tasks at all times to best utilize their time. Conversations with others should be limited to academic discussions. Cell phones should not be used during instruction unless otherwise directed by the teacher.
- **Pay Attention:** Students should remain focused on learning during class time. Students will not put their heads on the desk during instructional periods. No sleeping during instructional time.
- **Hands to Yourself:** Students should respect others and their properties by behaving in a “hands to myself” manner.
- **Water Only:** Students may not eat, but may drink water in a closed top container. This privilege may be taken away at teacher discretion.

**Electronic Device Expectations (Phones, Tablets, Earbuds, Etc.):**

- Students who have cell phones out during class without permission from the teacher will be asked to put them in the classroom lockbox and will get them back when class is over. Students who refuse to do so will be referred to administration.
- Students are welcome to utilize the classroom lockbox voluntarily to eliminate the possibility of cellphone distractions during class.
- During testing, students may be required to put their phones in the lockbox.

**Discipline Plan:**

Students who choose to disrupt the learning environment by failing to meet the above outlined expectations will earn the following consequences:

- 1st Offense: Verbal warning
- 2nd Offense: Conference with student
- 3rd Offense: Contact parents
- 4th Offense: Discipline Referral

**\*These consequences are subject to change based on the levels of severity of the behavior**

**Attendance:**

Attendance is a major factor in student success. Students should make every effort to attend every class throughout the semester—absences should be strictly avoided, except in emergencies. You are permitted only 5 absences per semester. Any unexcused absence after that must be made up through seat time recovery at the cost of the student.

**TARDY POLICY:**

Students arriving to class after the tardy bell will receive a consequence following the procedures outlined below:

- 1st-3rd = Warning/Conference (parent contacted by the third tardy)
- 4th-5th = Lunch Detention (assigned by teacher)
- 6th-7th = After School Detention (referral to admin)
- 8th + = ISS (referral to admin)

**Leaving the Classroom:**

Berea High is using the SmartPass program. Students will be given a pass to leave the classroom and will be tracked according to the number of requests to leave the classroom. Once a student's limit has been reached, passes are issued at the teacher's discretion.

**Parental Communication:**

The Parent Portal and Backpack are the most efficient ways to monitor your student's progress. Every parent is given a username and password. If you do not have this information, the guidance office can provide you with this information.

The best way to communicate with us is via email, [srafferty@greenville.k12.sc.us](mailto:srafferty@greenville.k12.sc.us) / [hcortes@greenville.k12.sc.us](mailto:hcortes@greenville.k12.sc.us) , or by phone, (864) 355-1642.

We are here to help in any way that I can to help your student be successful!