**Porfirio H. Gonzales Elementary School  
 8th Grade Syllabus – Algebra  
2013-2014**

**Instructor:** Mr. Steven Barker  **Office:**  Room 88   
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**Course Description:**

Algebra is year long course for advanced middle school students. It is the study of expressions, equations, functions and inequalities. Students will solve linear equation, use proportional reasoning, graph relations and functions, analyze linear equations solve linear inequalities and systems of linear equations and inequalities, explore polynomials and quadratic/exponential functions. They will also explore rational and radical expressions and equations.

**Grading:**  
Grades are based on tests, quizzes, in-class assignments, homework, projects, and participation. Grades will be available via the online access program and updated often.

100%-90% A Grade Breakdown:

89%-80% B 80%: Tests and Quizzes

79%-70% C 10%: Homework

69%-60% D 10%: Participation

59% and lower F

Grades will be determined by dividing the points earned by the total points possible.

**Classroom Expectations:**

* Be on Task.
* Be Prepared.
* Be Courteous.

**Late Work/Attendance:**Make-up work for absent students is always available and accepted per district policy. However, it is the responsibility of the student to ask me for work they missed while away. **ATTENDANCE IS CRITICAL.** While students can be given reading/writing assignments and “paper” work that is missed, they can never make up the class discussions and interactions that are central and essential to learning. Commit to being here EVERY day.

**Materials: *Please have by TUESDAY, AUGUST 6th, 2013***

The following materials are required for class and will be used on a regular basis:

1. **1 Three Ringed Binder (2-3 inch preferred)**
2. **College-ruled lined paper:** in-class assignments/writing pieces
3. **Pencils/Pens (black or blue ink only)**

# **Course Activities**

1. Binder. Your binder is a tool for you to keep track of your learning as well as provide a reference for you when you are studying; a binder is used to organize information. The four sections will be labeled “bellwork”, “homework”, “notes”, and “tests”. Students will earn points for their binders; at the end of each quarter binders will be graded as part of your participation grade.
2. Testing. Student progress is measured by testing. Testing will occur every week usually on Wednesday.
3. Homework/assignments. Students will have assignments following each lesson. The concepts of this course build on each other; therefore it is mandatory for you to turn in assignments, on time so you do not get behind.
4. Make-up assignments are posted on the Assignment calendar posted on the bulletin board. Make-up assignments must be made up within the time limit of number of days absent plus one. Students may need to pick up worksheets he/she missed; worksheets are located in the container on the counter-labeled “absent work”. If you are having trouble with a lesson, make arrangements (tell me you are coming) to meet with me at lunch, before, or after school. **It is the students’ responsibility to check the assignment calendar and make up the missed work. If you are absent (no matter the reason), assume you missed work; look at the calendar and see what you missed.**
5. Make-up tests. Students who miss a test must make arrangements to take the test at lunch, before, or after school. See me and make an appointment to come in. If you miss a test, you have to make it up in the time limit of number of days absent plus one unless other arrangements are made.

1. Bellwork. Bellwork is a task given to students to work on and finish in the first five minutes of class. Students late for class will not be able to finish bellwork and will not get full bellwork points for the day.
2. Participation. Students earn participation points for being in class, taking notes, answering questions, and following directions. You cannot participate if you do not have needed supplies; if you do not have needed supplies you will not receive full participation points for the day.

**8th Grade Algebra Syllabus Signature Form**

**PARENTS:** You can expect that I will provide a safe and positive learning environment in my classroom. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I look forward to speaking with you and would greatly appreciate your help and support in making this year a great experience for your child!

**STUDENTS:** please keep the syllabus in your **notebook** for the entire school year and return this sheet to Mr. Barker by **Monday, August 12, 2013.**

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I have read the 8th grade Math syllabus and understand the requirements, rules, and responsibilities involved in being in this class. I am going to make this a GREAT year in Math by being on task, being prepared, and being courteous.

Student Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Contact Information:

Home Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_