Riverdale Kingsbridge Academy
Lori O'Mara, Principal
Subhas Mohan, Assistant Principal

Course Syllabus
Instructor: Mr. Psachie   **Email:mpsachie@schools.nyc.gov**
Course Title: Algebra 1

Welcome to the 2015 – 2016 Academic year. My name is Mr. Psachie. I will be your
mathematics teacher this year. Below are my grading policy, classroom rules, and
syllabus.

GRADING POLICY

Exams and Quizzes	70%
Homework	10%
Class Work	10%
Projects	5%
Notebook	5%

There are 3 marking periods in each semester. The final grade for each semester will be a
weighted average of the three marking periods and a final exam (1st marking period 30%,
2nd marking period 30%, 3rd marking period 30%, Final Exam / Regents Exam 10%). In
a single marking period, all included exams, quizzes, projects, homework, notebooks, and
classwork/participation will be averaged as listed in the above grading policy.

Exams will be administered generally every 2 – 3 weeks. For the most part, quizzes will
be administered every week. *Any student that is found to be cheating on an exam will
receive a "0" for the exam. This will also lead to further disciplinary action. In addition,
any student that is absent from my class on an exam day must provide me with a written
note of explanation for the legitimate absence from his/her parent or guardian on the day
that the student returns to class. The student will then take the make-up exam on that
same day. If I do not receive a note, the make-up exam grade of will be reduced by **10
points***.

Homework will generally be given daily except on the day before an exam and the day of
the exam. Homework assignments must be completed on time in order to receive full
credit. Students should always attempt the homework problems even if they are having
difficulty. We will go over some homework problems during class. Partial credit will be
given for homework assignments that are completed within 3 class days of the original
due date. Each *completed* homework assignment that is handed in on time will receive a
grade of up to 100 depending on the quality of work. Homework handed in 1 day late
will receive a 75, 2 days late will receive a 70, and 3 days late will receive a 65. Any
homework that is more than 3 class days late will not be accepted. If a homework
assignment is not accepted, the grade will be a **0**. If a student is absent, then that student
is responsible for getting the homework assignment that is due the next day and attempt
that homework. All homework assignments will be listed on Jupiter Grades
(www.jupitergrades.com) the day the homework is assigned. **You should check Jupiter
Grades daily for assignments, grades, absences and lateness**. In addition, the student

should be prepared to hand in all homework that was due on the days absent. Otherwise, the homework will be considered late. All students should have an email address and/or phone number of at least one other student in the class as well. I may also be contacted by email for homework.

The class work grade is based on students actively participating and contributing to the class by asking and answering questions, taking part in discussions and group work, helping fellow students, and diligently taking notes. If a student is frequently disruptive thus hurting others in the learning process and/or is not actively taking notes, then that student will lose points on the class work part of the grade and will face further consequences. In addition, each time a student is late to class results in a 5-*point deduction*. A student that is absent from class must provide a written note with a legitimate excuse from a parent/guardian. Every unexcused absence, which can be interpreted as *cutting class* results in a 0 for that day. Excessive absences, lateness, and disruptions in class will result in detentions as well as other appropriate penalties.

There will be one project assigned per marking period related to topics that the students recently learned. Students are also responsible for maintaining an organized notebook. According to the new school policy, students should use a 2-inch three-ring binder with loose leaf and graph paper. All handouts should be hole-punched and also placed in the binder. Students should also have folders with pockets. I will periodically collect students' best work to keep in a portfolio. Notes will be collected and checked at least once each marking period. In addition, I recommend if possible, the purchase of a Texas Instruments TI-84 Plus graphing calculator. You may be able to buy a calculator for less than $125 and even less if it is used. Check online. In addition, there are many online resources that may help during the mathematics course. The majority of this course will involve the NY Engage Modules. The website is https://www.engageny.org/resource/high-school-algebra-i. Most of the handouts will be from these modules. Other resources include www.math.com, www.tutor.com, www.liveperson.com, and http://www09.wolframalpha.com/. Online calculator resources that can be used in the absence of a graphing calculator include http://web2.0calc.com/, http://easycalculation.com/, and http://rentcalculators.org/stheli.html. You can also conduct a Google search, *online math help* to access additional websites.

CLASSROOM RULES

1. *Students will always respect every individual in the classroom*. This includes your teacher, all students, and guests that visit the classroom. In addition all personal electronic devices (mobile devices, iPods, etc.) must be off and out of sight.

2. *The purpose of the classroom is for learning*. Students are expected to be prepared with the proper materials (pencils, pens, loose-leaf paper, graph paper, ruler, and calculators). As soon as students enter the classroom, they should begin working on the "Do Now" problem(s) and have their homework ready to be handed in or checked at their desks.

3. *Students should be engaged in mathematical discussions*. One of the best ways to understand mathematics is to have mathematical conversations.

4. *The classroom is to be kept clean at all times*. All garbage should be thrown away in the trashcans.

5. *Always give **100% effort in your work**.* In the overwhelming majority of cases, strong effort leads to rewarding results. *You are the one ultimately responsible for the grades that you receive!!!*

If a student is frequently disrespectful and/or hurting the learning process for others, there will be consequences. These consequences may include but not limited to: (1) losing points off grades, (2) detention, (3) parental contact, and (4) temporary or permanent removal from the class. If you or your child needs to contact me, I prefer to be reached by email at mpsachie@schools.nyc.gov. I can also be reached through the school at (718)-796-8516, Room 312. At the bottom, please sign and date this document acknowledging that you have read and understand the Grading Policy, Classroom Rules, and Syllabus. Please also fill out email address and telephone number information at the end of this document so that I may contact you.

Regards
Mr. Psachie

Algebra 1 Syllabus: M. Psachie

We will be using the *Engage NY Algebra 1 Modules* for the majority of the curriculum. We will also use the *Integrated Algebra* textbook by Prentice Hall as a secondary source. There will be daily homework, frequent quizzes, and numerous exams including one semester exam and the June 2016 Regents examination throughout the year. In addition there will be projects. This syllabus is a guide and is subject to change. Algebra 1 Common Core is geared towards the preparation of the Regents examination in June 2016 as well as enhancing the ability to analyze and solve mathematical situations using higher-level critical thinking skills.

Semester#1

1. *EXPRESSIONS and EQUATIONS*

2. *INEQUALITIES*

3. *LINEAR and ABSOLUTE VALUE FUNCTIONS*

4. *ANALYZING FORMS of LINEAR EQUATIONS, ARITHMETIC SEQUENCES, and PIECEWISE FUNCTIONS*

5. *SYSTEMS of EQUATIONS and INEQUALITIES*

6. *RADICALS, EXPONENTS, EXPONENTIAL FUNCTIONS, and GEOMETRIC SEQUENCES*

Semester#2

7. *OPERATIONS and FACTORING POLYNOMIALS*

8. *GRAPHING QUADRATIC and CUBIC FUNCTIONS*

9. *SOLVING QUADRATIC EQUATIONS*

10. *GRAPHING RADICAL FUNCTIONS and SOLVING RADICAL EQUATIONS*

11. *ANALYZING DATA*

Grading Policy & Classroom Rules

Student Print Name   _____

Student Signature   _____   Date _____

Student Email Address   _____

Parent/Guardian Print Name   _____

Parent/Guardian Signature   _____   Date _____

Parent/Guardian Email Address   _____

Parent/Guardian Telephone Numbers   _____

How do you prefer to be contacted?   E-Mail   or   Phone

Students: Please list below current and future interests and hobbies.