GENERAL RULES AND EXPECTATIONS:

- Be attentive while the teacher or a student is speaking and always be respectful. Follow directions and respond politely to appropriate requests.

- Classroom disruptions, being disrespectful, unnecessary language and refusing direct instructions will result in your removal from the class and/or time assigned after school.

- Be on time, prepared and ready to learn. Bring regular paper, graph paper, pencils and a graphing calculator every day to class.

- Food, non-water drinks, gum, cell phones and personal electronics are never allowed.

- Use class time to its' full advantage by working until the end of the class. The clock does not dismiss the students, the teacher does.

ATTENDANCE:

- School policies on absences and tardies will be strictly followed. Know these policies.

- Any student who exceeds ten days of non-school related absences in a semester will not receive credit. Work may be made up for excused absences. Students who lose credit due to excessive absences may request a hearing with an appeal committee.

- Students are expected to be in the classroom ready for class to begin when the tardy bell sounds. For every three tardies, the final grade will be dropped one grade level.

- It is the students' responsibility to find out about and make up missed notes, assignments, quizzes and tests. The number of days absent will result in that many days to turn in missed assignments or make up missed quizzes and tests.

LETTER GRADES:

- Letter grades will be determined by the following scale: A (93.0% and above), A- (92.99% - 90.0%), B+ (89.99% - 87.0%), B (86.99% - 83.0%), B- (82.99% - 80.0%), C+ (79.99% - 77.0%), C (76.99% - 73.0%), C- (72.99% - 70.0%), D+ (69.99% - 67.0%), D (66.99% - 63.0%), F (62.99% and below).

- If a student is receiving a "poor grade", then the student needs to get extra help before school, after school, or during Advisory. It is the student's responsibility to ask for this extra help.

- Grades will be updated approximately every Monday. Progress reports will be distributed after chapter tests are graded. These progress reports must be signed by a parent/guardian. Otherwise, daily points will be lost and the student's grade will suffer.
DAILY POINTS: 5 % OF GRADE

- Five points will be given daily for attendance, acceptable class work, preparedness and behavior.

- Absent students will receive zero points. Points lost due to excused absences can be regained within five school days by serving make-up time after school.

- Tardy students will lose two points with no chance for makeup.

- Unacceptable behavior (disturbing others, wasting class time), unsigned progress reports and not having appropriate materials will result in lost points.

ASSIGNMENTS: 20 % OF GRADE

- A “quick check” of assignments will occur on a regular basis at the beginning of the next class period. They will be checked for completeness and effort.

- “Weekly checks” will occur. Specific problems will be chosen from previous assignments. The problems, their work and solutions will be copied from the student’s paper onto a new sheet. The problems will be checked for their process as much as the answer shown.

- In all instances, points will be deducted if the problem and all the steps are not shown. Answers only will not be accepted. Points will be deducted for using pens. Points will be deducted for assignments without a name or heading. Points will be deducted for late assignments.

QUIZZES: 25 % OF GRADE

- Assignment quizzes will be given on a regular basis. It is important to be prepared for these quizzes by completing the required assignments and taking complete notes. Quizzes using SAT practice problems may also be given.

- Quizzes missed due to an excused absence should be made up on the day of the students return, before or after school, or during advisory. There is a limited time period to make up quizzes. Students that have a missing quiz will not have a quiz dropped at semester.

- Anyone talking or caught cheating (looking at, pretending to look at or trying to look at someone else's paper or cheat notes) while quizzes are being taken will be given a zero on the quiz with no chance for a makeup.

TESTS: 50 % OF GRADE

- Tests will be given at the end of each chapter. Tests are such a major portion of the grade that it is important to study notes and to do review problems to be ready for tests.

- Makeups for missed tests are before or after school. School time will not be given to take makeups. It is the student's responsibility to arrange their schedule to makeup these tests.

- Anyone talking or caught cheating (looking at, pretending to look at or trying to look at someone else's paper or cheat notes) while tests are being taken will be given a zero. Everyone must be done before talking will be allowed.

- The student has the option of one retake test per semester which will be given at the end of the semester. Retakes must be taken before or after school. The student will get 75% of the increase from the original test and the retake added to their original score. Ex: A retake is 8 points higher than the original. 75% of 8 is 6. Therefore, 6 points added to the original score.
I have read Mr. McDowell's syllabus. I understand that my child will be held accountable towards all of Mr. McDowell's classroom rules and policies.

Parent / Guardian Name __________________________________________ (Please print)

Parent/Guardian Signature _______________________________________

Parent/Guardian Email Address (Main form of parent/teacher contact)
If the email is different from the email in the school system, please note.

_________________________________________________________________

Phone number for contact between 1:00 and 2:00 ___________________

I have read Mr. McDowell's syllabus. I understand that I will be held accountable towards all of Mr. McDowell's classroom rules and policies.

Student Name ____________________________ (Please print)

Student signature __________________________

Questions for the student to fill out.

Q1:  What was your grade in your previous math class?

Q2:  Why are you taking this class?

Q3:  What are some of the items that you need to focus on to do well in this class?

Q4:  Anything else that you feel I should know?