



Sterling High School

Course Name: Algebra I

Department: Math

Teacher: Mr. Zimmerman

Prerequisites: None

Additional Required Materials: None

Course Description: The general purpose will be to develop at least a proficient level of competence in the following general algebraic topics: 1. Algebraic Expressions, 2. Solving First Degree Equations/Inequalities, 3. Graphing Linear Equations on a Coordinate Axis, 4. Solving Systems of Equations, and 5. Working with Polynomial Expressions. While this doesn't sound like a great deal to cover in an entire school year, the multiple building blocks of skill that have to be developed will make this a formidable task for this school year.

One of the most common questions that is always asked in Algebra classes is "why do we have to study this?" The purpose of Algebra is to equip the student with the mathematical tools and the thinking skills necessary to function in many other areas of life. Algebra is a theoretical, abstract topic and the ability to think in the theoretical/abstract world has historically, and still is, one of the most significant thinking skills. The more a student

develops their ability to think and reason in the abstract the more able they will be to solve complex, real-world problems in any area. For most students, algebra is not a topic that they will consciously use every day of their lives, but if they have mastered the skills of algebra, they will never quit using those thinking skills in many other areas of life.