**Instructors:** Mr. Aaron Cress **Room:**  01-307

**Email:** [aaron.cress@polk-fl.net](mailto:aaron.cress@polk-fl.net) **Website**: [www.arcress.weebly.com](http://www.khsmrbakker.weebly.com)

**Overview:** The fundamental purpose of Algebra 1 is to formalize and extend the mathematics that students learned in the middle grades. The units are designed to deepen and extend understanding of linear and exponential relationships by contrasting them with each other and by applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend, and students engage in methods for analyzing, solving, and using quadratic functions. The Standards for Mathematical Practice apply throughout each course, and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations. The units to be covered are Expressions; Equations and Inequalities; Introduction to Functions; Linear Equations, Inequalities, and Functions; Exponential Functions; Quadratic Equations and Functions; Summary of Functions; and Statistics.

**Graduation Requirement:** Algebra I and the Florida Algebra I End of Course Exam (EOC) are graduation requirements. Students are required to pass both the course and the EOC. Due to the high stakes of the EOC, many assignments through the course will prepare students for success on the EOC. To pass the EOC students must earn a 3 or above on a 5-point scale. Test item specifications are provided on the class website under the online resources tab. The EOC has two portions: a calculator and a no calculator portion. Due to the two portions of the EOC, ***calculators will be used seldomly in class***.

**Required Materials:** Course workbook and practice book (both provided by instructor), scientific calculator (due to COVID-19, students should provide their own calculator), spiral ring 3-hole punched notebook, loose leaf paper, graph paper and pencils.   
  
Students may additionally find a ruler, colored pencils, and highlighters to be helpful, but they are not required.

**Calculator:** TI30XIIS Scientific Calculator or Desmos Scientific Calculator  
I recommend the Desmos Scientific Calculator. It is a free app on any smartphone. It is also the same format as the online calculator the students will have access to on the EOC.  
Calculators will be used primarily as we draw closer to the EOC. They will not be used every day.  
***E-learners:*** ***Parents of e-learning students, please work with your student to ensure they are not reliant on the calculator for addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. If you have a question about when a student should be using a calculator, please email me.***

**Grading:** This course will be graded according to the approved Polk County grading scale. Thus, grades will be assigned as follows: A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (60-69), F (0-59).

*To receive credit for any assignment, students are required to show work. If there is no work shown, no credit will be given.*

**Grade Computations:** Progress within this course will be measured by a variety of graded coursework. This will include daily homework assignments, usually Monday Tuesdays and Wednesdays. There will be a quiz most every Friday. The final grade for each grading period will be based upon a category system using the following percentages:

Semester Grading Breakdown:

* Assessments (Tests / Quizzes): 55%
* Homework Assignments: 45%

**Assessments:** All classroom assessments are designed to assess student proficiency on specific standards. A student who scores a C on a classroom assessment has demonstrated proficiency, while a student who scores an A has demonstrated mastery. Students will be given the opportunity to recover low test scores through **test corrections** if all other assignments are completed. Test corrections will be completed by the students, in the classroom, and during non-instructional time and will allow students an opportunity to earn half of the points taken off for incorrect answers. *More information will be provided for e-learners regarding test corrections at a later date.* ***All unit tests will be completed using Schoology and the Lockdown Browser.***

**Classwork or Homework:** Classwork and homework are a vital part of learning and practicing the skills necessary to solve practical problems in Algebra I classwork assignments will be generally given out daily and will generally be worth 25 points. All classwork assignments will be due the day after it is assigned unless stated otherwise. These assignments will be graded on **completion** and must be turned in on time to receive full credit.  
***All assignments (homework or classwork) will be turned into Schoology, by ALL students.***  
*Parents: All assignments in FOCUS will have a date assigned and a due date listed. Also, please check the notes for any details on the assignment.*

Partial credit for all student work is at the discretion of the instructor.  **If no work is shown, no credit is given.**

Student grades, attendance, discipline, and other information are available online through the Parent Portal system. Parents and students may also schedule a time with the instructor and Guidance Counselor to meet and discuss their grades at a time convenient.

**Standards-Based Observations (SBO):** Standards-based observations will be completed by the students once per week (usually). The teacher will evaluate the students on a rubric, rating students on a 5-point scale. A score of 1 indicates a complete lack understanding or a lack of effort to demonstrate knowledge. A score of 2 indicates partial understanding and an observed effort to understand the standard. A score of 3 indicates proficiency with some errors related to the present standard. A score of 4 indicates proficiency with errors unrelated to the present standard. A score of 5 indicates mastery of the standard. Standards-based observations will be entered in the gradebook as SBO along with the standard and will be worth 50 points. Students may request a re-observation to improve their grade, **if all other assigned work is completed**. The SBOs are designed to inform parents, students, and the teacher about students’ understanding of a standard and reflect the expected level of success on the Algebra I EOC.

**Late Work Policy:** An assignment handed in within a week of the due date will have no penalty. An assignment that is handed in that is a week late will have 10% credit taken off. Once an assignment is two weeks late, the assignment will receive a 30% deduction. Once an assignment is three weeks or later, the assignment will receive a 50% deduction. It is the expected responsibility of the student to keep track of their own assignments and a sheet will be given for this purpose.

**Makeup Work:** In accordance with the Student Code of Conduct, makeup work will be given for all absences upon request of the student. Makeup quizzes and tests will usually be administered after school at a date and time agreeable to both the teacher and the student and cannot be taken during class periods. Remember, it is the responsibility of the student to request any makeup work from the instructor.

**Classroom Policies:** Students are expected to abide by the Polk County Student Code of Conduct and all Kathleen Senior High student policies.

* Students are expected to be in class on time & prepared for the daily lesson.
* Students are expected to maintain their assigned materials and bring them every day to class.
* Students are expected to be respectful to the instructor and to each other; at a minimum, this means that students are expected to remain quiet while others are speaking and are expected to refrain from using disrespectful language in the classroom.
* E-learning students are expected to participate in class as if they were present. More information will be shared for e-learners specifically.
* **Textbook Check-out:** Textbooks will only be checked out under extenuating circumstances. If a student checks a book out, he or she must fill out the check-out log and get the teacher’s initials upon return. **The student is responsible for damage done to the book, and the full cost of the textbook if it is lost.**
* iPods/MP3 players, digital cameras, and other electronic devices are restricted from use in the classroom. A warning will be given for first violations. Students are not allowed to listen to MP3 players during class, especially during assessments. **Cell phones and other smart devices are allowed at the discretion of the teacher. Any non-educational use of these devices is prohibited.**

**CLASS RULES**

1. Follow ALL School rules & Dress Code.
2. No passes the first or last 15 minutes of class
3. No cell phone or electronic devices
4. No passes during instruction time
5. No ear buds or head phones in class
6. No talking when the teacher is talking or during announcements

**Consequences** for breaking rules:

1. Verbal reminder of proper behavior

2. Individual discussion with the teacher

3. Parent Contact

4. Referral

**Parent / Student Sign-Off Form**

Dear Parent(s),

It is with enthusiasm and excitement that I welcome your child to my class this year! I look forward to having the opportunity to help instruct your child in Mathematics.

Your child has been given a copy of the syllabus for their class. This syllabus includes important information related to the required materials for the class, as well as the expectations of the student with respect to homework, grading, and classroom policies. I hope that you will be able to take time out of your busy schedule to read the syllabus. **I understand this is a busy time of year, but I highly recommend you read the information on graduation requirements, assessments, classwork, and Standards-Based Observations.**

I have also listed below a variety of means to contact me, should the need arise during the year. I have included my school phone number, room number, as well as the address for the website for this course. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding the course, the materials for the course (such as the model/style of calculator needed), or your child’s ongoing performance in the class.

Please note that your signature, and your child’s, is requested on this paper below. During the course of this class your child may be assigned materials such as calculators or textbooks that will become their responsibility to maintain. If these materials are lost or damaged during the year, your child will be financially responsible for replacing or repairing them as the situation warrants.

Once again, I eagerly look forward to the opportunity to serve you and your child this year.

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| Mr. Aaron Cress |  |
| Mathematics Department | Room 01-307 |
| Kathleen Senior High School | aaron.cress@polk-fl.net |

**I hereby indicate that I have read and am aware of the official syllabus of the course being taught. I also indicate that I am aware that the student will be financially responsible for any lost materials checked out to the student by the school, such as textbooks or calculators, at a value sufficient for replacement of the lost material by the school.**

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**Parent / Guardian’s Printed Name Parent / Guardian Phone Number**

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**Parent / Guardian’s Signature Parent / Guardian Email Address**

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**Student’s Name (Printed)**

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**Student’s Signature Date**