

# Mrs. Fernando PreAP Algebra 2

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Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year! I am excited to share this year with you and can't wait to see the growth that you will have this year in Algebra 2. This letter will provide basic information that will allow you to be successful. Please read over it carefully and share it with your parents.

Teacher/parent/student communication is essential to have a successful year. I want each of my students to prosper in this class while preparing for life after high school. Please feel free to contact me at school (817-314-1600) and leave me a message or email me at [glendafernando@misdmail.org](mailto:glendafernando@misdmail.org) if you or your parents have any questions.

**Course Description:** In addition to the material usually covered in algebra, topics such as probability and statistics, and matrices and determinates will be expanded and taught at a more rigorous, in-depth level. Emphasis will be placed on the application of concepts and skills introduced in Algebra II. The level of instruction/curriculum will focus on preparing the student for further advanced placement courses. Students must successfully complete prior to taking a higher math class. This course is required for a Distinguished Level of Achievement or STEM Endorsement.

**Textbook:** *Big Ideas Algebra 2* is the book that will be used for this course. Each student will have their own online access to the textbook and resources.

## Digital material:

- Skyward - <http://www.mansfieldisd.org/skyward.htm> You should monitor your grade on a regular basis. This will help prevent any "surprises". I will post grades promptly but at least within 5 business days of due date.
- Google Classroom – Students will be guided through the Google Classroom enrollment process using their MISD accounts. Students will be expected to regularly access Google Classroom for assignments, notes, etc.

**Classroom Expectations:** Both you and I will abide by these policies as well as those established by MISD and Frontier High School.

- **Respect**
  - for yourself – come to class prepared with your materials and assignments; be dressed and groomed so that it will not be necessary during class.
  - For others – classmates are learning and I am guiding that learning, so distracting behavior is not acceptable.
  - For your environment – no food, drinks, or other pollutants
  - For property – clean up after yourself and be careful with items that are placed in your care.
- **Responsibility** - taking care of assignments and other business at appropriate times
- **Reliability** – be present, prepared (by having required materials and student ID on and visible)
- **Ready to participate** – ready and willing to be part of class activities and discussion

Other General Policies and Procedures will be followed according to the Mansfield ISD Policies indicated in the Student Handbook. Each student will receive a handbook; additionally, a digital copy is located on the school website.

Electronics: All electronics, including but not limited to laptops and iPads will ONLY be utilized when deemed appropriate by myself. Penalties for violating this policy might include taking the item up or a referral. Confiscated items will incur a \$15 fine per district policy.

Cell Phones: Cell phones are to be out of site at all times when you are in my classroom.

- 1<sup>st</sup> offense – warning and parent contact
- 2<sup>nd</sup> offense - teacher will hold it for the class period and parent contact.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> offense and beyond - teacher will take it and turn in the phone into AP. Student will pay \$15 and AP will contact the parent.

If student forgets iPad or laptop, they **cannot** use phone instead. I have 4 laptops and students can check out for the class period with the following consequences:

- 1<sup>st</sup> time to forget their iPad/laptop and have to borrow one – warning
- 2<sup>nd</sup> time to forget – parent contact
- 3<sup>rd</sup> time and beyond to forget - referral

Required Materials

- iPad
- pencils
- Composition book
- 1 box of tissues –OR- 4-pack of AAA batteries

Tutorial: I feel it is my responsibility to help you when you are having problems understanding what we are covering in class. **It is your responsibility to let me know that you are in need of help.** It's best to make arrangements to come to get help before you get too far behind. Tutorial times will be on A days during advisory as well as Monday & Wednesday afternoons from 2:45 to 3:30.

Extra Credit: There will be select activities during the semester for you to earn extra credit as well as when you attend tutorials.

Grading Practices: Six weeks grades shall be obtained by averaging daily work (homework, class work, or quizzes, etc.) and major grades (tests, projects, lengthy assignments, etc.). Each six will be evaluated as follows:

Test 60%                                      Quiz 30%                                      Assignments 10%

The semester grade will be calculated as follows:

$(1^{\text{st}} \text{ 6-wks} * 26\%) + (2^{\text{nd}} \text{ 6-wks} * 27\%) + (3^{\text{rd}} \text{ 6-wks} * 27\%) + (\text{Sem Exam} * 20\%) = \text{Sem Grade}$

**Late work will follow the district policy of 15 points deducted per day for 3 days at which point it will become a zero.**

You should monitor your grade on Skyward <http://www.mansfieldisd.org/skyward.htm> on a regular basis. This will help prevent any “surprises”. I will post grades promptly but at least within 5 business days of due date.

Retests: Any student who wants to retake a test (pass or fail) can do so. Both test will be averaged together for the new *final* test grade. Please note the following:

- Student must come to a minimum of 1 tutorial session and make corrections on the original test to be able to retest.
- Tutoring can be after school or during Advisory.
- Student has a 2 week window to retest. (I will give the deadline after each test is given back.)
- **RETEST CAN ONLY BE TAKEN AFTER SCHOOL** unless arrangements have been made between me, parent and Academic Associate Principal for a student who cannot under certain circumstances stay after school.

Absences/Tardies: See the handbook for district attendance policies. It is YOUR responsibility to get any missed information, which includes but is not limited to warm-ups, notes, and assignments. You will need to check the late work folder on the day that you return to school. You are allowed 4 tardies per semester. On the 5<sup>th</sup> tardy, an office referral will be issued. If you are absent the day homework is due, it is due upon your return. If you miss a test or quiz, you will have one calendar week from the date the assessment was administered to make it up; otherwise, it will remain a zero. **Being absent on a review day does not entitle you miss the test or quiz the following class.** It is imperative you attend tutorials if you are absent!

Course schedule: A six-week calendar is attached for the 1<sup>st</sup> six weeks and will be posted on the school website for following six-weeks. Please remember, this is a living document and is subject to modification. An updated calendar is also available on Google classroom.

Integrity: Please refer to the student handbook discusses district policy on academic dishonesty. There will be no tolerance.

**PARENTS & STUDENTS**, read the information in this letter carefully. **I need BOTH of you (parent & student) to complete a GoogleForm by Friday, September 2, 2016.** You may access the form by scanning the QR code or following the link: <https://goo.gl/xto5Gy>. Your responses will each count as ½ of the first daily grade for this course. I will reply to each submission. *If you do not receive a reply, please re-submit!*



I am looking forward to getting to know you! Let's have a fabulous year together!

Sincerely,

Glenda Fernando