

Dear Families,

January 2018

Hello! My name is Marie Draper, and I am lucky enough to have your student in my Algebra I class for 2nd semester. I am excited to begin a challenging semester of math coursework that will be responsive to your student. It will not only prepare your student to succeed in this class and on the state exam but also to succeed in life using critical thinking and problem solving skills developed in this class. I maintain the highest of expectations for every student because I know every student can meet them. Specifically, we have two big goals for our class: (1) for every student to achieve a grade of 80% or above on assessments, with a class average of 85%, and (2) for every student to score proficient or advanced on the End Of Course exam (EOC). **We take the Algebra 1 EOC this spring, and this state exam will count for 20% of your student's grade.**

Should you ever want to discuss your student's progress, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school at (314) 653-8100 ext. 7214 or by cell phone at **(314) 548-9363**. My email address is **draperm@jenningsk12.org**, and I check it daily. We can also schedule an in-person conference.

To help your student succeed in this challenging class, here are four things you can do.

Progress Reports: Your student will receive progress reports midway through every quarter. PLEASE check your student's grades online through SIS because I leave comments there often (<https://sdm.sisk12.com/JN/Default.aspx>). Discuss with your student if the grades are demonstrating that she/he is on the path to achieving our big goals.

Work at Home: Your student will have online homework (www.ixl.com) due EVERY week. Please ensure your student completes homework with her/his best effort, staying after school if needed. Students will also have a study guide for each major assessment that they should finish at home for extra credit on the assessment. All assignments are posted at my website www.jshdraper.weebly.com, so if your student is absent for any reason, all work is available.

Encourage: Encourage your student to ask questions in class, complete homework, and study for assessments. Encourage your student to come to **tutoring**, which is held in my classroom A106 on Tuesday mornings 7-7:45am and Wednesday afternoons until 4:30pm or as part of Stars & Heroes in E133 on Thursday afternoons until 4:30pm.

Ask What Was Learned: Ask your student to explain what she/he learned in class every day. This simple routine will help her/him review and find holes in her/his understanding.

Please review and sign the syllabus with your student so that everyone is on the same page about the expectations for this challenging, yet rewarding, class. Finally, to help me serve your student, please take five minutes out of your busy day to complete the **family survey** and have your student return it as soon as possible. I look forward to working with you and your student!

Please come to Parent/Teacher Conferences on Friday, March 23 (no school that day). I want to meet you!

Sincerely yours,

Marie Draper