**Algebra II: Goals, Rules, and School Values**

**Goals**

As a teacher, I try to ensure that any rules I set directly address my goals for the class, so before I explain the rules let me explain the goals.

1. Class goals should never compromise student health and safety.
2. Students should gain and/or polish skills that will help them throughout their lives.
3. Class time is spent productively for every student.
4. Every student learns the material at an appropriate pace.
5. The curriculum is in line with state and national standards.

**Classroom Rules**

In our first week of school, we’ll talk about procedures that have worked well for you and your peers in the past. For the most part, I prefer to see how the classroom dynamic evolves before making any other judgements about classroom procedures. Generally, you should:

1. Be kind.
2. Be safe.
3. Do math.

**The School Mission**

In partnership with families and community, Dorchester County Public Schools is committed to providing a high quality, safe, inclusive learning environment that produces responsible college and career ready citizens.

To thrive in college and in your career, you will apply skills you learned in the classroom. Those include skills directly assessed through the curriculum, such as working with exponential functions in your finances, as well as skills practiced in every classroom, such as arriving punctually and working respectfully with your peers.

The class rules are designed to promote those skills directly, and to ensure that every student has an opportunity to practice each skill. “Do Math” ensures that you get the practice you need at the skills embedded in the curriculum. You should make sure that you are also giving your classmates the support they need to do math, too: by answering questions, asking questions, or simply saving side conversation for outside the classroom. This is practice for you in working respectfully, and provides the space your classmates need to do their own practice.

The rules also acknowledge that as a student at CSD you are part of a community. Everyone working at CSD contributes to your success, and to get the most out of the classroom you can expect support from each community member. In the classroom it can be difficult to remember the breadth of the community, which includes not just students and faculty, but administration, custodial staff, bus drivers, food services, and families! “Be Kind” asks you to consider each of these people and their roles. Your classmates may have different experiences and priorities from you; be cognizant of diverse perspectives when you make invitations and inferences. As well, remember that the adults supporting you are happy to help, but also appreciate your contribution to the community.

“Be Safe” includes not only making the best decision for your health, but also remembering that actions you take can impact your classmates. Stay aware as you walk through or stand in a space; use classroom equipment according to directions; and be responsible in choosing the activities you advocate. In your life, finding a strong and healthy community will be critical to your comfort at home and at work. Practice building this community now; keep the school spaces clean and safe, and acknowledge the people who help you.

Algebra II Homework Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Class Rules Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

To guide our class discussion about rules, please answer the following questions as homework:

1. What is your biggest pet peeve for a teacher or student in your class?

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1. Does this pet peeve violate one of the three class rules? Which one? How does that rule apply?

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1. What is the kindest thing a classmate or community member has ever done for you?

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1. If you could change a rule, which one would you change? How would you change it?

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