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COURSE OBJECTIVE: This course is designed for mastery of previous Algebra 1 topics and as a discovery of new aspects of this intense mathematical language called algebra. Its intent is to provide a solid foundation of polynomial, rational, exponential and logarithmic functions and their graphs, as well as expand the ideas of trigonometry. In addition, students will learn to apply their knowledge of this material with critical thinking and to work cooperatively with others.

TEXT: *Algebra 2* (Burger et al, Holt, 2008) This is a brand new textbook to the school. They were expensive to buy; and are expensive to replace. Aside from your name, you are not to write in the textbook (not even in pencil). Cover it, treat it with care and know where it is at all times.

MATERIALS: Each day you are expected to have your materials for class; a list of the specifics will be given during class. A student arriving in class without the proper supplies is unable to actively participate in class. Active participation is one key to success in this course. In addition to two notebooks (see below), binder and writing utensils, you will need a graphing calculator (preferably a TI 83+ or 84). Materials will be checked daily; forgetting them will result in lost points.

CLASSWORK: Classwork will be given daily in the form of notes, activities and exercises. Your classwork should be kept in a separate notebook (spiral is best); more specific information as to its contents will be given in class. A neat, organized notebook is an essential part of understanding a lesson, applying the lesson to the homework assignment, and most importantly comprehending Algebra 2. Completion of each day's work will be verified in class. There will be periodic notebook checks applied toward your grade. You are required to bring this notebook everyday; forgetting it will result in lost points.

HOMEWORK: Homework will be assigned daily. It is also to be kept organized in a separate notebook (again, spiral is best); more specific information as to its contents will be given in class. A few minutes of class time will be devoted to certain homework exercises, however *each exercise is expected to be complete before class begins*. Completion of the assignment will be verified on a daily basis. A random number of exercises from the notebook will be graded weekly. You are required to bring this notebook everyday; forgetting it will result in lost points.

TESTS/QUIZZES: Tests and quizzes, as with homework and classwork, are assignments that assess your progress in Algebra 2. They are not a medium for you to regurgitate information, but a way for you to think critically and articulate your knowledge. There will be a 100-point test at the end of every chapter. Both individual and partner quizzes—30 points—will be given throughout each chapter. All will be announced in advance. Once graded and returned, both tests and quizzes are to be kept in your binder.

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS: All mathematicians read and write. It is the best way to express thoughts and ideas, so you too will be writing in Algebra 2. The writing assignments will be in a variety of formats, for example: writing an autobiography; reflecting on the math learned; writing a reaction to an article; creating and teaching a lesson. More specific information about the topics and requirements will be given in class.

LATE WORK: If the required assignment is not turned in *during your class period*, on the day it is due, it is considered late. Points, or a percentage of points, will be deducted from the final grade given on the assignment.

ABSENCES/TARDIES/MAKE-UP WORK: If you are absent or tardy (excused or unexcused), *it is your responsibility* to find out the assignment you missed. Notes can be copied and homework can be completed *outside of class time*. All assignments are posted on my website, as well as on the agenda board. You know the due dates of most assignments in advance, and those assignments are expected in class **THAT DAY**, during your class period. If you know of the absence in advance, you may turn in/do the assignment early. If you are absent from class, but not the entire school day—the assignment is still due that day. And it may be considered late. Assignments for full-day absences can be turned in the first day you are back at **SCHOOL**, and you are responsible for this. Otherwise, it will be considered late.

As one quiz grade will be dropped per semester, no make-up quizzes will be given for any full-day absence. However, if you know of the absence in advance, you may take the quiz early. Or if you will only be absent for part of the school day, you may take the quiz at an arranged time on **THAT DAY** only. In both cases the quiz will be taken individually. If you are tardy for a quiz, extra time may not be given and it will be taken individually.

Three cumulative make-up tests will be given per semester. Those test dates will be announced in class in advance. The make-up test will cover *any* information learned during that time period, not just the specific information that you missed. Make-up tests will **ONLY** be given to students who are absent the **ENTIRE SCHOOL DAY**. If you know of the absence in advance, you may also take the test early. Or if you will only be absent for part of the school day, you may take the test at an arranged time on **THAT DAY** only. Partial-day absences on test days, excused or unexcused, may result in a zero—so plan accordingly. If you are tardy for a test, extra time may not be given.

GRADING: Grades will be updated weekly on *Pinnacle* and missing assignments will be posted in the classroom. Your semester grade will be based on the following weights:

<i>Classwork</i>	30%	<i>All work done in the classroom, including Daily Points, CWNBS, Green Sheets, etc.</i>
<i>Homework</i>	30%	<i>All work done outside of class, including HWNBs, Writing Assignments, Chapter Previews, etc.</i>
<i>Tests/Quizzes/Final</i>	40%	<i>All formal assessments—individual and partner.</i>

CHEATING: If there is any reason to *suspect* cheating all parties involved, as well as any possible witnesses, will be questioned. You risk receiving an automatic zero for the assignment—including tests and quizzes. Most people know the difference between honesty and cheating. If you are in doubt, consider it cheating and don't do it. See the Santa Monica High School Student Handbook for further details.

RULES: The classroom rules and procedures are designed to make our classroom a safe, honest, and fun place to be. Nothing less will be tolerated. If the rules, including those designated in the SaMoHi Student Code of Conduct, are not followed, **YOUR DAILY POINTS WILL BE LOST AND** an appropriate punishment will be issued. You are always expected to be on your *best* behavior—especially when other adults are in our classroom. If your *best* is not that of an intelligent, young adult—which you are--parents, advisors and principals may be informed. In general:

Be Honest Be Respectful Be Responsible Be Accountable Be Nice and Behave.

AVAILABILITY: One of your most valuable resources for success in any course is your teacher. I am available to help you—you just need to ask. If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions, please see me as soon as you can. If for some reason I cannot assist you immediately, I will make time for you. Other math teachers are also available to help you with course-related material. Feel free to ask them. Please be advised that the more prepared you are, the more useful assistance will be.