

Shepherd Hill Regional High School

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Future Algebra 2 Accelerated Students and Parents,

Each year, we assign summer work to the incoming freshman class recommended for the accelerated class. This year more than ever, it is crucial for students to refresh their skills and fill in gaps that may exist. For summer work, we will be using an online program called ALEKS.

The first thing students need to do is sign up for my Google Classroom. The class code is dqjtaol. The Google Classroom will be the main source of communication between students and myself. I can post announcements and students can reach out via Classroom or email with any questions they have throughout the summer work. Google Classroom will be used throughout the school year as well.

Next, students need to go to aleks.com and sign up for an account. They will be prompted to enter a class code which is FYXMW-WKXQR. The course will open up on July 1, 2020 and this is when students are able to begin their summer work assignment. The first thing students must do is take a **personalized interactive assessment** that precisely identifies the student's knowledge state for Algebra 1, the course that was recently completed in eighth grade. The student will be presented with 20-30 questions representing the subject matter in the course. As the student solves each problem, ALEKS gains a greater understanding of what the student knows and doesn't know. Following the initial assessment, the student receives their report in a **color-keyed pie chart**. In the "pie," each "slice" corresponds to a particular area of the curriculum. The degree to which the slice is filled by a darker color shows the extent to which the student has mastered that area. The report describes the student's current knowledge of the subject and makes precise recommendations for further study. Each slice of the "pie" may be opened to produce a list of the concepts on which the student can choose to work.

Students will receive their first 100 quiz grade for Algebra 2 Accelerated upon completion of 80% of the topics in their pie chart. There are 458 total topics, so this means mastering 367 topics. It is especially important that students take the interactive assessment to the best of their ability. The better they do on the initial assessment, the less topics they will have left to master in the pie chart. For those students that would like to go the extra mile, an extra 5 points will be awarded for students who complete 90% and an extra 10 points for students who master 100% of the pie chart. This will be due by the first day of school.

Prior to the school year, it is strongly encouraged that students purchase a TI-84 Plus graphing calculator. We will be using it often throughout the school year and students will use this calculator throughout their entire high school career along the accelerated path as well as in college.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the summer work for this year. I can be reached by email (kdarling@dcrsd.org).

Thanks,
Kayla Gagnon
Algebra 2 Accelerated Teacher

“ . . . committed to excellence with pride and unity. ”