



Sacred Heart-Griffin High School

1200 West Washington Street * Springfield, Illinois 62702-4794 * (217) 787-1595 * Fax (217) 787-9856

March, 2018

Dear Parents and Students,

SHG is proud to continue to offer the zero hour algebra program during the 2018-2019 school year. Eighth grade students may apply for admittance into the program in order to participate in one of the two courses levels listed below. The differences between the two options are the pacing of the class and the depth of the content.

- The Algebra I Honors (weighted 5.0) class is the same material and pacing that is expected from our Honors Level freshmen. We expect incoming students to be proficient in the basics of Pre-Algebra. There is little or no time for review as the students will cover a new section of the book daily. There will be daily homework assigned. Maturity, motivation, and work ethic are essential for all students who sign up for this class. Any student earning less than a C- for the first semester will not be allowed to continue for the second semester. SHG cannot provide tutors for zero hour, nor will the teacher be able to slow the pace. The successful student will register for Algebra II Honors (A is weighted 5.0) as a freshman and be on track for BC Calculus senior year.
- The Algebra I UCP (weighted 4.0) class is the same material and pacing that is expected from our 4.A freshmen. We expect incoming students to be proficient in the basics of Pre-Algebra. This level class will cover the majority of the same topics as the honors level, and the level of problems assigned will not be as difficult. Since not all of the sections are covered, the pacing will be slower at this level. Any student earning less than a C- for the first semester will not be allowed to continue for the second semester. SHG cannot provide tutors for zero hour, nor will the teacher be able to slow the pace. The successful student will register for Geometry UCP as a freshman and be on track for AB Calculus senior year. [Other options include repeating Algebra I UCP; Honors Algebra I.]

Students will be asked to submit documentation to be used in the application process to determine readiness level for the courses. The criteria being used will include: Math report card grades for the current school year, a self-evaluation (enclosed with this letter), an **evaluation by the student's current math teacher**, and the zero hour entrance exam administered at SHG.

New as of May 2017, all students applying to the SHG zero hour algebra classes must take the zero hour entrance exam. Families may choose one of the two testing dates to complete the exam. Students do not have to register ahead of time. All testers need to arrive at SHG east campus by 9am on either date listed below. The exam will take approximately 90 minutes and students may use a calculator for portions of the test. All students will need to bring a pencil and calculator to the exam.

- **Saturday, April 14, 2018 @9am**
- **Saturday, April 21, 2018 @9am**

We value the input of our grade school principals and teachers. SHG will contact the grade school principal and math teacher before finalizing a student's enrollment in the Zero Hour classes. Please

have your current math teacher complete and return the enclosed evaluation form. If you have any questions, you may e-mail me at rapacz@shg.org. Please complete the application and submit required test documentation by April 9, 2018 to:

Sacred Heart Griffin High School
c/o Kara Rapacz
1200 West Washington Street
Springfield, IL 62072

Students will be informed about acceptance by the end of May, 2018. Thank you for your interest. Let us pray for each other as we come to the final months of this school year.

Blessings of peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kara Rapacz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kara Rapacz
Principal

Enclosure

PERSONAL INFORMATION TO BE COMPLETED BY THE STUDENT

Student _____

Grade School _____ Grade _____

Address _____ Home Phone # _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Parent(s) with whom student resides _____

**Parent E-mail Address _____

MATH QUARTER GRADES 1st _____ 2nd _____ 3rd (current) _____

Candidate (**student rather than parent**), please evaluate yourself in the following areas.

Rate yourself on these qualities:	scale	Low (C or lower)	Medium (B)	High (A)	
consistently completes homework in a timely manner	1	2	3	4	5
works well independently	1	2	3	4	5
works well during group activities	1	2	3	4	5
has a strong interest for math	1	2	3	4	5
general performance on tests	1	2	3	4	5
general work ethic	1	2	3	4	5
ability to be at SHG by 7:05 a.m.	1	2	3	4	5
Your prediction of how successful you will be in Algebra I Honors Class	1	2	3	4	5

On the back of this sheet please answer this question:

Why do you want to take the Algebra Honors class?

COMMENTS

Student signature

Parent signature

