ALGEBRA 1 · PERIODS 4 AND 5 · MR. MINNERLY · QUARTER 1

Finish the quarter strong

Your Unit 1 test is back. This sheet explains how your grade is built and exactly how to raise your test score before the quarter closes. Keep it; families, it is for you too.

mrminnerly.com/grades
This sheet as a web page, with a link to everything on it.

Quarter 1 grades close on Friday, October 30. Tuesday, October 27 is the deadline for turning in missing practice sheets and for making your Skill Check or quiz plan with Mr. Minnerly (see page 2). After Tuesday, the only things still happening are the checks and retakes already scheduled with him.

HOW YOUR GRADE IS BUILT

10%
PARTICIPATION
The **warm-up sheet**, every day. Credit is for trying. No make-up for a missed day.

40%
PRACTICE AND QUIZZES
Practice sheets (2 points each, complete with work shown), **Friday quizzes** (out of 10), and **iReady** (counts as a quiz).

50%
TESTS
One **unit test** per unit; Unit 1's is out of 26. Half the grade, so the most points to win back are here.

A Raise your test score with Skill Checks

You do not retake the whole test. You re-prove one skill at a time, and the points you lost on that skill come back.

A **Skill Check** is a short paper: 6 problems on one skill from the test, 10 minutes, alone, no notes, scored right away. There are four, numbered 1 to 4. Each pays back the points you lost on certain test questions:

5 or 6 right
every point you lost on those test questions comes back

4 right
half of those points come back

3 or fewer
you lose nothing, and you get a new version to try again

#	SKILL CHECK	PAYS BACK TEST	POINTS	PRACTICE FIRST (SEE STEP 5)
1	Integers	question 1	8	Test Prep problems 1 and 2
2	Order of operations	questions 5 and 7	5	Test Prep problems 7, 8 and 11
3	Number sense	questions 2 and 3	8	Test Prep problems 3 and 4
4	Fractions	question 4	3	Test Prep problems 5 and 6

1 Find out which Skill Checks you need.

Look at your test. Find the questions where you lost points, then find those numbers in the table. Those rows are your Skill Checks. Write the numbers on your test. All four can pay back **24 of the 26 points**.

2 Checks 1 and 2 already ran in class last week (October 13 to 16). Find your row for each one.

I passed it (5 or 6 right)	You are done with that check. Those points are already yours.
I got 4 right	Half the points are yours already. Want the rest? Plan a second try (step 4).
I got 3 or fewer	You lost nothing. Plan a second try (step 4); you get a new version.
I was absent or never took it	You can still take it. Plan it (step 4).

3 Two tries for full points, and one try per day.

The first check, then a new version. Miss both, and the only way back is a **one-on-one with Mr. Minnerly**, for **half** the points at most. **One try per Skill Check per day:** miss today, and your next try at that check is tomorrow at the earliest; the day between is for practice (step 5). Two different checks on one day is fine. **No Skill Checks on the day your test comes back.**

A Make it happen

Steps 4 and 5. This is the part that is on you.

4 Plan your Skill Checks with Mr. Minnerly by Tuesday, October 27.

One more Skill Check will be given during class before the quarter ends. Mr. Minnerly will announce the day in class. Every other Skill Check happens **on your own time**: before school, after school, or another time he gives you. Never during another class.

- **How to plan one:** write your name on the **Skill Check sign-up sheet** by the class boxes (the mail-sorter by the classroom door), or email **zminnerly@wellpinit.org**. Either way: your name, your period, and which check (1, 2, 3 or 4). Mr. Minnerly writes back with a time.
- **Deadline:** make the plan by **Tuesday, October 27**, so the check can happen before grades close on Friday, October 30. A plan made after Tuesday is not guaranteed a time in Quarter 1.
- **Everyone has different lives, rides and obligations.** Mr. Minnerly will work with you on the when. But a Skill Check has to happen in his classroom, with him, on paper. There is no online version and no take-home version.
- **Never took the test?** Tell Mr. Minnerly this week. You take the test in class first; any Skill Check you pass before it is saved and counts as soon as the test is scored.

5 Study the skill before you sit down for the check.

- **Test Prep** on the website has problems just like the test, each with a hint and the steps. The table on page 1 names the problems that match each check. To get there: `mrminnerly.com` → **Study** tab → **Algebra 1** → **Practice problems like the test**. On mrminnerly.com/grades, each check has a direct link.
- **The take-home notes** for each lesson have a worked example of every kind of problem. They are on the same Study page, one lesson at a time.
- Ten minutes on the matching problems the night before is the difference between 4 right and 6 right.

QUICK REMINDERS: THE REST OF YOUR GRADE

B Missing practice sheets

Skyward shows a 0 or Missing next to each one. Finish them (work shown) and put them in your class box by **Tuesday, October 27**. That is the final deadline: nothing is accepted after Tuesday. Blank copies: the Assignments tab on the class website, or ask.

C Quizzes

Missed Quiz 1 or 2, or want a better score? Make the plan with Mr. Minnerly by **Tuesday, October 27**, on the same sign-up sheet. A retake needs your corrections and that week's sheets turned in first; the higher score replaces the old one.

D iReady

Not finished? Finish it in class this week: Wednesday, Thursday or Friday. Finish with no rush flag and you get full points. Your score is not the grade; your effort is.

THIS WEEK AND NEXT

Wed Oct 21
Half day (P2, 3, 4). Tests back, this sheet, work time.

Thu Oct 22
Guest teacher. Work day: iReady, sheets, Test Prep. No checks.

Fri Oct 23
Tests back for P5, 6, 7. Work time; a Skill Check in class if announced.

Mon Oct 26
Unit 2 begins: Solving equations and inequalities.

Tue Oct 27
Deadline: missing sheets in, Skill Check and quiz plans made.

Fri Oct 30
Quarter 1 closes. Half day (P5, 6, 7).

For families

Skyward shows the live grade; the test score goes up as Skill Checks are passed. The best thing you can do: ask which Skill Checks your student wrote down in step 1, and whether the plan is made. This sheet with links: **mrminnerly.com/grades**. Questions: **zminnerly@wellpinit.org** or the office, **(509) 258-4535**. The Unit 2 test is Friday, December 4.