

Diocese of Richmond
Algebra I Exam Guidelines
2008 – 2009

The following guidelines are provided for the Diocesan Algebra I Exam. **Please note that some of this information may be new.**

The Exam

1. The exam is derived from the concepts outlined in the Diocesan Consensus Curriculum for Algebra I – 1 Year Program. More than one topic may be contained within one question.
2. The exam consists of **45** questions. Each question is worth three points and a perfect score is **135**. A student must receive at least 94.5 points (70%) to pass.

A team of mathematics specialists, selected by the Diocesan Office, will grade the exams according to the following criteria:

Points	Reason(s)
0	no attempt at the problem or an attempt that demonstrates no knowledge of the problem
.5	meager attempt demonstrating very little knowledge of the problem
1.0	made an attempt demonstrating little knowledge of the problem
1.5	made an attempt demonstrating some knowledge of the problem
2.0	has arithmetic errors and demonstrates knowledge of the problem
2.5	has an arithmetic error and demonstrates complete knowledge of the problem
3.0	full answer and totally correct

Each member of the grading team will grade the same page of all exams to provide consistency in scoring.

Guidelines 2007-2008 continued

3. Two hours is allowed for the exam. The exam will be complete with working space and graphs. A formula bank consisting of the distance, slope, quadratic, and Pythagorean formulas will be provided. Although the formulas will be stated, a title, variable or expression will not identify them. No multiple-choice questions appear. Scrap paper will be provided. However, **only that work which appears on the exam will be graded.**
4. Students may use a calculator. Graphing calculators are **NOT** permitted. Each student must bring his/her own calculator. **Sharing of any materials is not allowed.**
5. Previous years tests are to be used for practice tests. The 2007 – 2008 exam can be found on the Diocesan website.

Exam Administration

1. The exam date is **May 21, 2009.**
2. The 2007 – 2008 exam will be e-mailed to each Principal on May 16, 2008. The school is responsible for copying as many as needed. Please keep one copy to be used as the practice exam for 2008-2009. Any school that has technological difficulties should contact Annette Parsons or Dana Erby immediately at the Office of Catholic Schools at (804) 622-5119.
3. Overnight the completed exam on May 21, 2009 to the Office of Catholic Schools, 7800 Carousel Lane, Richmond, VA 23294, Attn: Algebra I Exams. Grading will occur on Tuesday, May 26, 2009 and results will be e-mailed to the Principals on Wednesday, May 27, 2009. Certificates of Achievement for those students who earned the high school credit will be mailed no later than May 28, 2009.
4. Exams should be scheduled in the morning allowing two hours for the exam.

School Record Sheet

The School Record Sheet included with these guidelines is interactive. Since students will not be writing their names on the actual exam, the student will be identified by the school name and assigned number. Teachers must keep a copy of the School Record Sheet on file. **Completed Student Record Sheets should be e-mailed by April 30, 2009 to the Diocesan Office at (derby@richmonddiocese.org).**

Any questions about these procedures may be directed to Val Mosborg, Algebra I Exam Coordinator, Master Curriculum Council at vmosborg@piusxparish.org