

**Takoma Park Middle School**  
**MATH/SCIENCE/COMPUTER SCIENCE MAGNET PROGRAM**  
**7611 Piney Branch Road, Silver Spring, MD 20910**  
**Main Office: 240-740-5220 ♦ Magnet Office: 240-740-5242**

June 2023

Dear Algebra Student,

Welcome to Magnet Algebra! I hope you are having a pleasant summer and are looking forward to joining us in the fall. We are excited to teach you and I know that you will enjoy this enriched, fast-paced, and challenging course!

Enclosed is an Optional Summer Problem Solving Sheet. Many families enjoy the opportunity to preview a course and remain actively involved in academics over the summer vacation. On the other hand, numerous people are occupied with their own pursuits this summer, academic and otherwise. This is why the assignment is optional. Optional means that if you attempt the assignment and are successful, it will help your first quarter grade. If you make no attempt at the assignment or do poorly, the assignment will not impact your grade.

Being successful on this assignment includes completing the problems in accordance with the directions and bringing your solutions to math class when you report on the first day of school. An answer key is provided for you to check your answers. Please feel free to discuss your solutions with others. We hope that you find the problems to be challenging but enjoyable.

The Magnet Algebra curriculum also incorporates extensive use of the Desmos online graphing calculator. We also have a class set of the Texas Instruments 84 Plus graphing calculators (TI-84+). Students are not required to purchase their own calculator and may wish to wait until we explore these calculator options in class.

We look forward to working with you next year in the Magnet Program and hope that you are excited about participating in our unique Algebra course. We also use and update MyMCPS Classroom frequently to communicate with students and parents online. Please contact the school if you or your parents are unable to access MyMCPS Classroom during the first month of school.

Sincerely,

*Kathryn Saftner*

Kathryn L. Saftner  
Magnet Algebra Teacher

*Elizabeth van Ravenswaay*

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Magnet Algebra Teacher