

7TH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS

CLASS OUTLINE
AND EXPECTATIONS

MRS. SEFFENS 2013 - 2014



COURSE DESCRIPTION

Words can have great power. It is through written communication that we organize our thoughts, express our opinions, and share our imaginations. Sometimes, our written communication is the first or even only way with which we make an impression on others. For these reasons, we must learn to communicate clearly and eloquently. Eighth grade students will become more confident writers by writing frequently, experimenting with different genres, and learning to become strong editors of their own writing and the writing of their peers. We will focus on writing to describe, inform, persuade, and entertain.

DAILY REQUIRED MATERIALS

- Sharpened pencils
- Lined notebook paper
- 2 composition notebooks
- Silent reading book
- Binder with Language Arts divider
- Student planner: Students will not be able to leave the classroom without it.
- POSITIVE ATTITUDE!

ATTENDANCE

When a student is absent his/her work is NOT excused. It is the student's responsibility to find out what work was missed and complete the work. A student has the same number of days to turn in make-up work as the length of the EXCUSED absence.

EVALUATIONS / GRADING

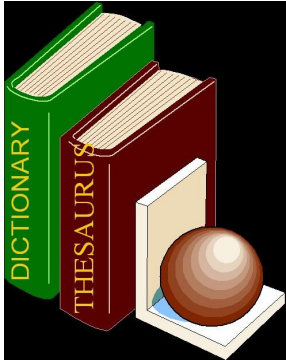
Grades are based on: classroom assignments, homework, projects, journals, quizzes, tests, and participation. Grades are calculated using the formula TOTAL POINTS RECEIVED divided by TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE. Although some work is done in groups, there are no "group grades". Work is graded individually as to the quality of the individual's part and effort within the group. All work will be expected to be completed and handed in on or before the due date!

**LATE WORK
WILL NOT BE
ACCEPTED!!**

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PHILOSOPHY

I believe all students can learn, demonstrate concern for others, and choose to act responsibly in the classroom. My goals as a teacher are to help all students learn to the best of their capabilities and to assist students to work effectively with others. I want to create a classroom environment that encourages mutual respect and cooperation and that provides opportunities for students to make choices regarding their behavior.



STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

- Be on time! This means in your assigned seat and ready when class starts.
- Have all the necessary supplies.
- Be prepared to work hard!
- Use class time productively.
- Be an active participant in the class – ask questions, share ideas, and work cooperatively with peers.
- Wait to be dismissed by the teacher, NOT the bell.
- When you are absent, you are responsible for making up missed work.
- Do your personal BEST and have FUN!

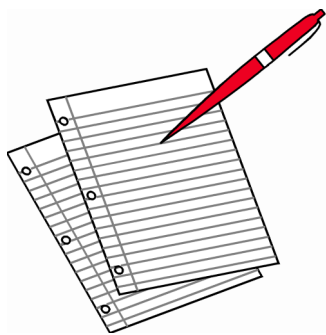
“EITHER WRITE
SOMETHING
WORTH READING
OR DO
SOMETHING
WORTH
WRITING”
- BENJAMIN
FRANKLIN

SKYWARD / COMMUNICATION

Skyward is our school’s way of keeping track of attendance, grades, emergency information, and much more. I use Skyward as a communication tool. Message Center is a feature of Skyward that allows me to post descriptions of classroom assignments and send messages to parents about upcoming events,

change in plans, etc. I also send out progress reports to parents when I update grades in Skyward. Unfortunately, only parents who give the school their email address can receive the weekly progress reports. Parents can still check grades on Skyward anytime, but sharing your email address will guaran-

tee a progress report. This information is invaluable to parents. However, you can only use this great tool if you have a Skyward password. Please contact the Middle School office to learn how to access Skyward.



TEACHER CONTACT

At any time if you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at school or e-mail me at kris.seffens@csd400.org.

I look forward to a great year working together. I’m sure it will be exciting and productive!

Please review these policies with your child. Sign and date the attached paper and have you child return it on or before _____. It will NOT be accepted after this date and will be counted as a missed homework assignment.

Class Expectations
Mrs. Seffens
8th Grade Language Arts

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

1. Treat others politely and with respect
2. Treat your school and personal property with respect
3. Follow teacher requests
4. Be prepared for class
 - Attend regularly and on time
 - Have necessary supplies each day
 - Take responsibility for any missed work
 - Turn in assignments on time
5. Make a good effort at your work and request help when you need it
 - Complete all your work to the best of your abilities
 - Seek out teacher assistance when needed

TEACHER EXPECTATIONS

1. Create a fair and safe classroom atmosphere in which students will feel free to share their ideas and ask questions.
2. Maintain an environment conducive to learning (limited distractions)
3. Discover and work toward improving individual students' strengths
4. Be available to students before and after school for extra help
5. Work toward making learning not only interesting but also meaningful beyond the classroom

I have read the course expectations and outline.

Student signature _____ Date _____

Parent signature _____ Date _____