

8th Grade Honors Language Arts Disclosure

Mrs. Alicia Lawson

Course Philosophy: The expectations of the eighth grade honors Language Arts are to improve written and oral communication skills and to develop an appreciation of written and oral language. This is accomplished through study of literature, composition, grammar, vocabulary, study skills, critical thinking, research socialization, digital incorporation, business incorporation, creative projects and activities.

Please keep in mind there are greater expectations of students in an honors class. This includes always being prepared for class, being on time and turning in all assignments the day they are due.

Students in honors courses must maintain a B (83%) or higher to stay in the honors class for the following semester or to move onto honors for the next year. The following steps will be taken if a student fails to maintain a B or higher: 1) conference with student; 2) call/conference with parent; 3) removal from class at semester's end.

Grading Procedures: The grade in this course reflects the student's ability to meet the academic goals of the class. Students will earn a grade for assessments (test and quizzes), assignments (homework, in class assignments, free writes and group projects or activities), daily free writes, projects (papers) and book reports. Students will earn a grade based on four components for this course.

Assessments =30%

Assignments= 30%

Projects=20%

Book Reports= 20%

Supplies: 2 Notebooks

Pencil or Pen (black or blue)

Colored Pencils

Grading Scale

A = 94%-100%

A- = 90%-93%

B+= 86%-89%

B = 83%-85%

B- = 80%-82%

C+= 76%-79%

C = 73%-75%

C- =70%-72%

D+ = 66%-69%

D = 63%-65%

D-= 60%-62%

Assignments: All students are responsible for keeping track of their own record for each assignment. Assignments will be written on the board and made known to all students for this purpose. It is also recommended that students keep all graded or returned assignments just in case there are any discrepancies in the grade book.

Unless otherwise stated, all homework assignments are due at the beginning of each period. Students place all assignments in the corresponding period basket.

All assignments must have students name, class period and date in the top right hand corner. There must also be a centered headline/title on each assignment.

All hand written assignments MUST be legible. Assignments will have to be resubmitted if not legible.

Late Work: Students will receive 3 late work tickets a term. To receive full credit the tickets must be stapled to assignments that are handed in late. Students are responsible for keeping track of their own

tickets; if they lose the tickets students WILL NOT get new tickets. If work is handed in late without a ticket the assignment will only be worth 50% credit. Tickets may not be used on book reports, projects, tests or quizzes, ONLY on assignments.

Extra Credit: One point of extra credit will be given to the student who is first to find an error on Language Arts handouts, on my website and on Highmark's school website. One point of extra credit will also be given to students who find errors in books or newspapers – paper or digital. Errors must be printed off and brought to class to receive extra credit. Students may find up to 10 errors for 10 extra credit points. Students may use any leftover late work tickets for extra credit at the end of the term. Each ticket is worth 3 points of extra credit.

Absences: The Junior High school wide attendance policy will be followed in class. A copy of the policy can be found on the school's website. A student is considered absent if they are more than 25 minutes late for class.

Students who are absent due to school-related absence, medical absence or parent excused are expected to get the work missed the day after the absence and then the student will have one day to make up the work. Arrangements for tests or quizzes should be made to make-up the tests or quizzes for before or after school or during lunch.

Tardies: Students must be in their assigned seats when the bell rings, otherwise they will be marked as tardy. First period tardies do not go against citizenship grade but for the other 6 periods the policy is as follows:

1st tardy= warning

2nd tardy=10 minutes of lunch detention

3rd tardy = 20 minutes of lunch detention, receive an N in citizenship

4th tardy=30 minutes of lunch detention, receive a U in citizenship

Citizenship: Students will receive a citizenship grade each term. All students will start with an S and only exceptional behavior will receive an H. Students will receive an N or U if they break class rules, have excessive tardies, or do not behave appropriately for the learning environment.

Citizenship Scale:

- H= Exceptional**
- S= Satisfactory**
- N=Needs Improvement**
- U=Unsatisfactory**

Cell Phones: Cell phones are to be left in student's locker and turned off. If a cell phone is seen or heard in the hall or classroom, the phone will be confiscated and will have to be picked up in the office at the end of the day. This is the junior high policy.

Outside Help: If any students feel they need extra help or assistance with assignments I am available before or after school, or by appointment during lunch.

Parental Involvement: This course requires an extensive amount of writing. Many times students will need a parent or guardian to proofread assignments.

Class Rules:

- Be in your seat when the bell rings
- Be respectful

No hitting
Raise your hand
No food or drink in class

Behavior Management: Students are expected to abide by the rules of Highmark Charter School as well as the rules set in the classroom. My consequences are as follows:

1. First offense=verbal warning
2. Second offense= yellow card and sent to another room for 5 minutes
3. Third offense= orange card and sent to another room for 10 minutes
4. Fourth offense= red card and kicked out of class for rest of the hour and parent is called
5. Fifth offense= sent to principal's office and parent is called.

Students will have to use a late ticket card to make up any work missed because they were told to leave the classroom.

Dealing with Unusual Circumstances: In the event that a student has a problem(s) beyond his or her control which are not covered by this statement, the teacher will meet with the student, and, if necessary, the student's parent/guardian, in order to come to an equitable solution.

School Policies: School policies such as dress code, bullying, etc., will be enforced within and outside of the classroom.

We have read and understand the disclosure for 7th Grade Honors Language Arts.

Parent/ Guardian Name: (Please Print)_____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date:_____

Email:_____

Phone#: (List 2)_____

Student Name:(Please Print)_____

Students Signature: _____ Date:_____

Class Period:_____

What should I know about your student?