**8th Grade Honors English Language Arts**

**Course Summary / School Supplies /Classroom Expectations**

**Ms. Viola/ Mrs. Sora**

**Course Summary**

**The 8th Grade Honors English course follows the 8th grade ELA curriculum. However, it is designed to provide challenging opportunities for students who demonstrate strength in the area of English Language Arts. Students in this course will examine additional works of fiction and nonfiction, provide deeper interpretations of these works, and produce more frequent writing in response to their reading. This program of study is designed to meet the intellectual and creative needs of high academic achieving students in the area of English Language Arts. The goal of the program is to produce self-directed, life-long learners. Enrollment in 8th Grade Honors English will prepare students for the demands of the high school Honors courses.**

**School Supplies:**

1.) 3 ring binder (one section in main binder)

2.) Lined (loose-leaf) paper

3.) 2 pens and 2 pencils

5.) Independent reading book (see our class library, school library or public library)

6.) 2-pocket folder used only for ELA (optional)

7.) Creative Writing Journal

**Grading Policy**

**Homework: 10%**

**Classwork: 35%**

**Tests/Quizzes/Projects (Essays): 45%**

**Citizenship (behavior, effort, organization, participation, & preparedness):10%**

**Classroom Expectations and Rules**

***Summer Reading Projects- Mandatory***

All **summer reading assignments** are due September 15,2023.

***Book Projects***

Quarterly Book Projects are due on the assigned day. Students should use their independent reading books for their quarterly Book Projects. Students should have their reading books in class every Friday (Reading Workshop Day). You will lose ten points per day if your project is late.

***Electronics / Cell phones***

Chromebooks should be brought to school, fully charged each day. Cell phones are to be kept **in lockers** throughout the school day.

***The beginning of class***

When class time begins, you should already be…

* Seated at your desk
* Copying your homework into your planner
* Beginning the Do Now activity ~ *Content Objectives must be written in daily notes.*

***Absences***

If you miss a day of school, it is **your responsibility** to make up any work from that day. You may see me before the school day (homebase), during your lunch period, or at the end of the day to get the ELA work that you missed.

***Hats/Jackets/Food/Drinks***—No hats or outerwear are to be worn in the classroom. No food or drinks in the classroom. Let’s keep our work space clean.

***Bathroom procedures***—There are no bathroom passes allowed during the **first or last ten minutes** of class. Please **take a pass and sign out** when you leave the classroom.

**8th Grade Curriculum Outline**

**Unit I:**

“Personal Narrative/ Memoir”

* Memoir/Personal Narrative: Excerpts from a variety of text.
* Written Assignment: Personal Narrative (Essay)

**Unit II:**

“Finding Home”

* *Inside Out and Back Again,* by Thanhha Lai (novel written in verse)
* Written Assignment: Poetry Writing

**Unit III:**

“Taking a Stand”

* *To Kill a Mockingbird*, by Harper Lee
* Written Assignment: Argumentative Essay

**Unit III:**

“Research- Understanding Perspectives”

* *Little Rock Girl: 1957,* by Shelley Tougas
* Written Assignment: Research Paper

**Unit IV:**

“Decision Making and Forming Positions”

* *The Omnivore’s Dilemma,* by Michael Pollan
* Written Assignment: Position Paper/Project

**End of Year Mini-Unit:**

* Year-End Reflection / Preparing for High School