



Curriculum

Our texts for this year are MacDougal/Littel's Language Network and the Sadler-Oxford Vocabulary Workshop, Level C. Vocabulary, daily oral language, and analogies and idioms will be practiced throughout the year. The units of study will incorporate essays, grammar, and public speaking. Essays must be typed and the Six Traits of Writing will be utilized for revision.

The tentative plan for the year is as follows:

Trimester 1

- Prepositions
- Narrative Writing
- Odes
- Direct Objects/Verbs



Trimester 2

- Persuasive Writing
- Sentence Structure
- Oral Research Report

Trimester 3

- Expository Writing
- Verbals, gerunds, infinitives, participles
- Confusable words

Grading

Grades will be based on points earned out of points possible; rubrics will be provided for the essays and projects. Vocabulary units will be tested every two weeks; students should study vocabulary words in addition to class activities. Study guides will be provided for unit tests other than vocabulary.

Expectations

Students are expected to follow the school rules at all times while in Language Arts class. Specific rules for my classroom are:



- ✍ Students will come *prepared* to class—everyday with supplies, homework, and a positive attitude.
- ✍ Students will take pride in themselves and our school—by acting with *respect* always.
- ✍ Students will take a *responsible* role in their learning—by organizing, participating, and seeking help if needed.

Progress

Grades are updated approximately weekly and are posted in the classroom. Progress notices will be sent home with students every 2-3 weeks; these are to be signed by a parent and will count for responsibility points.

Homework Policy

Homework is a necessary extension of the classroom. Therefore, it is expected that all homework be completed on time. Work, that is not complete and in the classroom at the start of class, is considered late. It is especially important that students keep up with each step of the writing process in order to make the best use of opportunities to prepare their essays and to produce their best work. Essays and projects will carry significant point values that can affect the overall grade, so it is important that students make consistent and timely effort.

Homework will be posted daily; students are expected to record assignments in their student planners. If a student is absent from class for any reason, it is their responsibility to collect the missing work and complete it in a timely manner. School policy allows one day per day absent to complete makeup work due to absence.

I truly believe that open communication between home and school is a key to success for students. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any suggestions or concerns.