

Ms. Weingart

**8th Grade Language Arts**

Milwee Middle School

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8th Grade Language Arts

Syllabus: 2015-2016

**Introduction:**

Welcome to 8th grade! This class will build upon existing skills learned in seventh grade and go more in depth. We will be discovering many authors including Maya Angelou, Robert Frost, Langston Hughes, Edgar Allan Poe, and also a variety of non-fiction based stories and articles. We will also be building upon skills already learned in previous years.

**Course Objectives:**

The eighth grade curriculum will be aligned to our new Florida Standards and will help students integrate smoothly into Florida’s new rigorous testing. Students will be mastering their writing skills; spelling, grammar, and punctuation. Students are expected to have already mastered basic writing skills. Students will be concentrating on a variety of types of writing, as well as, exploring new vocabulary terms.

**Classroom Expectations**

Students are expected to be prepared for class on a daily basis with all of their required materials. All students are expected to follow and uphold our RISE pledge at Milwee:

**R**espect

**I**ntegrity

**S**afety

**E**xcellence

All students are expected to uphold these expectations in the classroom as well as between classes. These expectations will be reflected in student's effort and behavior. Students embody the traits of the RISE pledge daily by working hard, working collaboratively, encouraging others, obeying the Milwee code of conduct and safety plans, and striving to go the extra mile in classwork as well as in after school clubs/activities.

Students are expected to come to class on time, meaning in their assigned seats with all necessary materials, and immediately begin working on bell work activities, which will be displayed at the start of each class period. Students will have responsibilities within their group that change daily and are expected to fulfill their duties as well as work collaboratively in teams. Students are expected to demonstrate proficiency in language arts skills by completing independent assignments and homework that will be given in class or on the class website. Students must have their work area clean and all materials put away before leaving class. Students will be in the seat when the bell rings. The bell does not dismiss the students; the teacher dismisses the students.

**Discipline/Consequence Procedure**

We will be following the SCPS Code of Conduct as well as Milwee’s universal discipline procedure to issue consequences. In class we will follow a strike system on the board to issue consequences and rewards for behaviors.

Circumstances in which there will be a disciplinary action include, but are not limited to, class disruptions, disrespect, bullying, dress code violations, unexcused tardies, cheating, plagiarism, violations to the student honor code, or use of electronic devices without permission. Consequences will be given in accordance to the SCPS code of conduct and discipline handbook.

**Supply List**

* 1 inch to 2 inch binder
* 1 package of dividers (5 tabs should be sufficient)
* Pens or Pencil. Students should be prepared everyday with at least two writing utensils.
* Planner. Students will be issued a planner to use. They are expected to bring it every day to write down homework assignments, important dates, etc.

**Grading**

The following is the grading breakdown:

**60%**= Independent work including, assessments, writing assignments, and projects, as well as, any work dealing directly with the standard which we are using at the time.

**20%**= Homework

**20%=** End of Quarter Exam

\*Skyward will be updated regularly and should be used consistently to monitor grades.\*

The Milwee school-wide absent work policy applies: students will have one day in addition to the number of days absent to complete and submit make-up work. Students who have missed class should contact me as soon as possible either via email or my website for missing work. When a student is absent, they can login to Skyward and see what was missed that day. **It is the student's responsibility to obtain and complete make-up work they missed during an absence.**

**Late Work:**

One letter grade is dropped for ever class period late, until 2.0. Then the maximum a student can earn is a 2.0. *For example, if an assignment is due on Monday, the maximum can be a 3.0 if the student turns in the assignment on Wednesday, and a 2.0 if turned in on Friday or later.* Late work will only be accepted until the end of the quarter,

**Parents/Guardians**

With questions or concerns regarding grades or classroom policies please do not hesitate to e-mail or call. I will try to respond in a 24 hour period. Although both forms of communication (call or email) is acceptable, I do prefer e-mail communication. More often than not, you will receive a response quicker via e-mail. Contact information can be found on the top of this syllabus.