

9th Grade English Language Arts

Mrs. Froerer

In order to ensure alignment to the new Common Core State Standards, the focus of this class will be divided equally between reading, writing, language, and speaking/ listening skills. Remember you are now freshmen in high school and will be earning credit toward graduation.

READING: “To become college and career ready, students must grapple with works of exceptional craft and thought whose range extends across genres, cultures, and centuries” (Common Core State Standards, p. 35).

- We will be reading and discussing novels as a whole class.
- You will be required to read self-selected books and show progress throughout each term.

WRITING: “For students, writing is a key means of asserting and defending claims, showing what they know about a subject, and conveying what they have experienced, imagined, thought and felt” (Standards, p.41).

- We will be working on writing skills throughout the year with a special emphasis on argumentative writing.
- We will be using the My Access writing program to improve writing skills using the guidelines given in the Six Traits of Writing.

LANGUAGE: “To be college ready in language, students must have firm control over the conventions of standard English” (Standards, p.51).

- Vocabulary development is vital to success and will therefore be a constant focus of study.
- We will be completing daily grammar exercises to help teach and remind students standard English conventions.

SPEAKING AND LISTENING: “To become college and career ready, students must have ample opportunities to take part in a variety of rich, structures conversations . . . built around important content in various domains” (Standards, p.48).

- There will be multiple group projects throughout the year and you will be expected to work with others toward a common goal.
- You will be required to make individual presentations throughout the year.
- Listening respectfully and offering insightful comments is an important skill to be successful in life. Therefore, listening respectfully will be considered in your letter grade.

REQUIRED MATERIALS: a great attitude, something to write with and something to write on, and your current reading materials

ABSENCES, TARDIES & MAKEUP WORK: We will be following school policy on tardies, unexcused absences and trancies. Please refer to the student handbook for these policies. When students miss class for any reason, they will have one week to make up assignments for full credit. After one week, the assignments will be worth one-half credit. I reserve the right to work with students on an individual basis.

CONTACT INFORMATION: I am going to try this year to keep my blog updated regularly.

blog.wsd.net/jofroerer. Please use this as the primary resource for making up absent work. I am available before or after school hours or via email jofroerer@wsd.net. Also, remember your child’s current grade is available to check at any time through the portal.

AGREEMENT AND SIGNATURE: By signing below, I agree that I have read and understand the information in this disclosure.

Please detach or print this section and return by Friday, August 24, 2012

Student

Parent/Guardian

Date: _____

Please add any comments, questions, or concerns you may have.