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**2017 – 2018 Course Syllabus**

# Language Arts 8th

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| **Teacher** | Rebekah Hurd | **E-mail** | hurdr@leonschools.net |
| **Phone** | 850-617-5353Ext. 2003 | **Planning Period** | Period 5 |
| **Class** | Room 3 Building 2 |  |  |

### Teacher Introductory Message:

Welcome/Welcome back to Griffin Middle School, Land of the Tigers. I am looking forward to working with you and your student this school year. We will “PUSH” for RIGOR (Relevant/Rigorous Instruction Gets Outstanding Results), as we learn and apply new skills as well as reinforce skills previously acquired to build and maintain understanding and knowledge. I know we will have a GRRRREAT Year.

### Class Description:

The purpose of this course is to provide integrated educational experiences in the language arts strands of reading, writing, listening, viewing, speaking, language, literature, and informational texts.

The content should include, but not be limited to, the following:

-using the reading process to construct meaning from a wide range of literary, informational, and technical texts

-using the writing process to communicate information and ideas

-using listening, viewing, and speaking strategies

-understanding the power of language and using language in authentic contexts

-understanding the common features of a variety of literary forms

-responding critically and analytically to visual, oral, and written texts

### Class Materials/Fees:

* Pencils
* Blue, black, and red pens
* Highlighters
* Box of tissues
* One subject spiral notebook
* Generous supply of loose leaf paper
* Index cards (3X5)
* Hand sanitizer
* Notebook Dividers
* 1 ½ inch White Binder
* Flash Drive

### Time Line:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 9–Week Period | Topic | Required Projects Reading/etc. |
|  1st 9-weeks | * Argumentative

Writing* Author’s POV
* Diverse Media
* Vocabulary
* Text Structure
* Latin Roots
* Analyzing Text
* Story Elements
 | * Essays
* Novel Reading
* Informational Text

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| 2nd 9-weeks | * Informative Writing
* Theme
* Figurative Language
* Drama/Poem Form
* Diverse Media
* Point of View
* Vocabulary
* Irony
* Latin Roots
 | * Poems
* Dramas
* Essays
* Short Stories
* Novel Reading
 |
| 3rd 9-weeks | * Argumentative Writing
* Informative Writing
* Differing POV
* History in Fiction
* Genre Comparison
* Characterization
* Vocabulary
 | * Essays
* Novel Reading
* Short Stories
 |
| 4th 9-weeks | * Argumentative Writing
* Informative Writing
* Author’s Point of View
* Characterization
* Theme/Irony
* Vocabulary
* Standards Review
 | * Novel Reading
* Writing
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### Grading Scale:

90 -100= A

80 - 89= B

70 - 79= C

60 - 69= D

0 - 59= F

**Grade Distribution:**

70% Assessment

20% Classwork

10% Homework

**Make-up Policy:**

All work is due on pre-determined due dates. Each student is responsible for making up work missed due to absences. Students will have two (2) days to turn in the missed assignment. Students will also have two (2) days to make up any missed tests or quizzes. Arrangements must be made by the student. Late assignments are accepted. Assignment grades will however drop one letter grade for each day they are turned in late up to four (4) days.

### Citizenship:

Outstanding 4

Satisfactory 3

Needs improvement 2

Unsatisfactory 1

### Discipline Plan/Consequences: Tiger Pride Code of Conduct

**P** repared

**R** esponsible and Respectful

Uphold

**I** ntegrity

**D** emonstrate Safety

**E** ngage in Learning

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Offense** | **Consequences** |
| **1st** | Warning |
| **2nd** | Document in Educator’s HandbookTelephone Call Home |
| **3rd** | Document in Educator’s HandbookTelephone Call Home, Other teacher intervention; **next offense resulting in referral** |
| **4th** | Discipline Referral |

### Assessments:

A variety of assessments will be used including but not limited to quizzes, tests, projects, writing and homework.

***Books & Novels***- Students are required to earn 10 AR points per 9-weeks. Therefore, they will need to read novels (of their choosing) in order to complete this assignment. Students will also be required to read one classroom book and complete an assignment TBD.

**Classroom Electronic Device/ Cell Phone Policy:**

Students are not allowed to use cell phones or electronic devices in class; unless instructed to do so by the teacher, for educational purposes only. If a cell phone or electronic device is used for non-educational purposes, the cell phone will be taken and turned in to the front office. Parents may then pick up the electronic device or cell phone from the front office.

### Back Pack Policy:

Back Packs are not allowed in the classroom or in the hallway outside of the classroom.

### Please complete and return this page to your child’s teacher. (HURD)

### Acknowledgements and Parent Contact Info:

By signing below, I acknowledge receipt of this course syllabus. I have read and reviewed with my child the class expectations and grading policy.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Child’s Name |   | Class Title |  |
| Parent’s Name |  | Class Period |  |
| Parent’s Signature |  | CellPhone # |  |
| HomePhone |  | WorkPhone |  |
| Parent’se-mail |  | OtherContact |  |

Opportunities are provided for our parents to become involved in our students’ education. Please respond to the following survey and return it to your child’s teacher.

I would like more information about:

\_\_\_\_ School Advisory Council (SAC) and meetings (**meets once per month at 6:00pm**)

\_\_\_\_ Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) (**meets once per month at 7:00pm**)

\_\_\_\_ Becoming a Business Partner

\_\_\_\_ Becoming a volunteer or mentor

\_\_\_\_ Serving on the District Advisory Council (DAC) (**meets once per month)**