

Linda Jobe Middle School 2017-18

8th Grade Language Arts Syllabus

Ms. Neff

Class Focus

There are many ongoing skills that will be learned and practiced throughout the year. These skills and lessons include: “reading across genres, reading comprehension skills, vocabulary, research, listening and speaking, media literacy, spelling, revising, editing, fluency, and independent reading.” There will also be a focus on rich cultural and historical texts, as well as writing and research.

-Mansfield ISD, http://www.mansfieldisd.org/uploaded/main/departments/CIA/ELA/PAP_8_yearatglance.pdf

Teacher Information:

Brooke Neff

Email: brookeneff@misdmail.org

School Office phone: (682) 314-4400

Class Website: www.brookeneff.weebly.com

Tutoring: M-F (8:15-8:35 AM)

Conference: 4th Period (11:15 - 12:00)

Consequences: (4th Down)

1. Verbal warning
2. Stay after class, meeting with teacher, seat change, etc. (parent contacted)
3. 20 minute teacher detention assigned (parent contacted)
4. Office referral

Text/Material Selections:

All levels: Holt McDougal Literature-Grade 8

Support Services:

The library provides literary reference material, fiction, non-fiction, and a technology center for students.

Grading information & policies:

40% Major Grades

Tests, projects, lengthy assignments, etc.

60% Daily Work

Classwork, homework, participation, curriculum based assessments, etc.

MISD Grading System-

A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
F	Below 70% Failing grade
I	Incomplete

Semester & Final Exams= 10% of final grade

Course Policies:

Class Participation – All students are required to be engaged in the learning environment. Various participation grades will be given throughout each six weeks to monitor participation and to help keep students accountable in the classroom.

Attendance – To receive credit in a class, a student must attend at least 90 percent of the days the class is offered.

Tardy Policy- A student is considered tardy to class if he/she is not in the classroom by the time the tardy bell ceases to sound. Tardiness is monitored and addressed as per MISD policy by semester. Discipline of tardiness will be accounted for using the 4th down system.

Quizzes and Tests- Students will have periodic quizzes and tests at the end of instructional units over information given in class and/or assigned reading outside of class. Students will be given at least one week's notice for major tests.

Projects- Projects will be assigned throughout the year. Students will be given a rubric to follow so they know the expectations of the project.

Late Work Policy- Students may be assessed a penalty of no more than 15 points per day for up to three days before a zero may be given for work not turned in on time.

Posting Student Work- Student grades will be posted in Skyward parent portal within five business days for daily grades and major grades. Special consideration is given to major projects, including lengthy writing assignments.

Corrections Policy- Students who fail a major test/project (below 70%) will be allowed to retake or correct up to a 70% grade. This does not include semester examinations.

- Students are expected to make arrangements with the teacher to retake or correct a major test/assessment.
- All retakes or corrections must be completed prior to the end of each six week grading period unless the student is afforded time, after six week grading period, as a result of the district's absent/make-up guidelines.

Missed Assignments- It is the student's responsibility to get make-up work. Students with excused absences will have the total number of days associated with the absences from school plus one day to turn in make-up work.

- Make-up work can be found in the hanging files located in the front of my classroom. Daily assignments are posted on the board weekly, as well as on my website. The work can be made up at home and turned in according to board policy.

Missed Exams- Students are to take the missed exam between 8:15-8:35, the next day or as soon as possible.

Tutoring- Tutoring is available any day; 8:15-8:35 a.m.

Academic Dishonesty –Cheating & Plagiarism is not acceptable and students will receive a zero with no retake option.

Student Work Policy- Homework and/or independent practice to be finished at home are acceptable methods to reinforce the concepts and skills currently being taught.

Restroom and Locker Passes-

- ◆ No passes will be given to go to your locker; you need to come to class prepared. Student can access lockers during passing period.
- ◆ Students are encouraged to use the restroom during their passing periods and not take from instructional time, to do so. Students are given five restroom passes per semester. At the end of the semester, any remaining passes may be used for extra points on their semester exam. If your student has a medical need, please contact our school nurse.

Daily Supplies needed for class:

- Pencils
- 4 different colors of highlighters (blue, yellow, green, pink- these will be used or mark specific things in paragraphs in students' work). These will stay with the students, but come to class every day.
- Colored markers-on the Jobe MS list-will need to come to class as needed.
- Colored pencils-on the Jobe MS list-will need to come to class as needed.
- Scissors-on the Jobe MS list- will need to come to class as needed.
- Students are expected to bring their iPad to class fully charged, every day.

I am incredibly excited for this upcoming school year with each of my students! My expectations are high and I know that we will be successful in achieving all of our English Language Arts and Reading goals.

Please return this signed page by Monday, August 21, 2017

I have read, understand and will adhere to all of the information given in the course syllabus.
I am familiar with Skyward and Ms. Neff's website.

Printed Student Name and Period

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Printed Name

Parent/Guardian signature

_____ Yes _____ No – Student has access to a home/work computer

_____ Yes _____ No – Student has access to internet

_____ Yes _____ No – Student has access to a home/work printer

Parent Information

Name	
Phone #	
Email Address	
Which one is your preferred method of contact? (Circle one)	<p style="text-align: center;">Phone Email</p>