

## *Mrs. O'Neil's Expectations and Rules for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts*

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Welcome to 8<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts! I am looking forward to a productive and successful year with your child. Students will be expected to participate in class discussions, learning activities, as well as work independently and collaboratively with their peers. I have high expectations of my students and I will do all that I can to help them achieve those expectations.

Lakeview's 8<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts curriculum is based on the State of Michigan's Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCEs) and has an overall focus on developing and strengthening reading comprehension, grammar, and writing skills. For more detailed information, you can access our curriculum page at <http://www.lakeview.misd.net/curriculum/6-8/6thru8LanguageArtsCurriculum.pdf>.

### **Supplies**

Here is a list of what you need to be successful in language arts:

- Language Arts Folder
- Language Arts Textbook
- Notebook (specifically for Language Arts)
- Pen and/or Pencil (blue or black ink only)
- Eraser
- Highlighter
- Silent Reading Book TO BE BROUGHT TO CLASS EVERYDAY!

### **Grading**

Students will be graded on a point system. Assignments, homework, projects, essays, tests, and quizzes will be worth a specific number of points which will be communicated to students on the assignment and/or in the form of a rubric.

### **Power School and Progress Reports**

JMS has switched to a new online grading program called Power School. Parents will be able to check their child's grades anytime online. The district is still in the progress of setting up Power School, but we have been told that this feature will be available to parents and students soon.

## *Procedures*

### **Entering/Exiting the Classroom**

When entering the classroom do so in a respectful manner, retrieve anything that is necessary for the current day's activities. Look for any instruction on the board and then begin bell work immediately. Bell work is to be kept with you at all times and will be collected periodically.

Please stay in your assigned seat until I dismiss you. Do not line up at the door, as many times, important information will be given at the end of class and I will need your attention.

### **Homework/Assignments**

Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date, unless otherwise noted or special arrangements have been made. Generally, in-class assignments are due at the end of the class period on the day the assignment was given. All assignments are to be handed into the box for the student's class hour. First and last name **MUST** be on all work turned in.

### **Late Work**

All required work must be handed in on the day it is due. Late assignments will have points deducted from them. The later the assignment is, the more points are subtracted off the score of the assignment.

### **Makeup/Absent Work**

According to the school handbook, students have one day for each day absent to make up missing work, however, if an assignment or project was due on the day the student was absent and the assignment had been given when the student was present, the assignment is due on the day the student returns to class.

Students and parents can access assignment information through the internet at <http://moneil1.weebly.com> or by checking the assignment board located in the classroom. It is the student's responsibility to use these resources and gather all missing assignments.

## *Rules*

*So that my students can learn, so that we can learn, so I can teach, I have a set of expectations to ensure that we will have a safe and orderly classroom. These expectations include:*

- **RESPONSIBLE:** Please come to class prepared to learn, work, participate, and be productive. All students should be in their assigned seat with all required materials when the bell rings. Listen to instructions and follow them carefully.
- **RESPECTFUL:** Please treat ALL STUDENTS, TEACHERS, AND VISITORS with politeness and respect. Name-calling, profanity, and negative language will not be tolerated. Also, please do not interrupt when someone else is speaking. Be respectful of property and belongings.
- **READY:** Please be prepared with all the required supplies, assignments and books.

My telephone number and email address are at the top of this letter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or concerns throughout the school year.