

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts (ELA) Syllabus

### Dear Scholars, Parents, and Guardians of Edna Brewer Pathfinders,

My name is Ms. Clark and I'm excited about teaching you English this year! My goal this year is to help you develop your voice in writing and to help you become a more critical thinker. The purpose of this class is to help you develop the fundamentals of writing – so that you can create your own unique voice through writing. We will be investigating various genres of writing throughout the year.

The class is broken up into Mini-Lectures where students will take notes about the subject matter being taught for the day, then a writing exercise that helps the student practice the writing strategy. We will also be reading various novels and other printed material. We will also learn how to journal our thoughts of the novels by making connections to what we read. As your guide, I will teach you reading strategies that will help you understand what you read.

We are also focusing on blended learning - infusing more technology in class (Typing essays, using interactive learning programs, and online discussion boards based on the novels we read (schoology.com). This allows for more differentiated instruction to meet your child's needs. When we are in blended learning mode the class will use a rotation-model where students rotate between stations: Independent work, computer time, and small group instruction.

### **Expectations for Success**

It is important to remember that we all have something to bring to the classroom. Our classroom is a place where all students can feel free to share and listen to each others unique experiences. This year is all about learning how to put your thoughts on paper in a clear and interesting way.

### **Yearly Goals:**

- 1. Become tech savvy (Learning to type, using interactive online programs, Digital Citizenship)**
- 2. Learn how to write to various audiences**
- 3. Learn how to stay organized and the value of working as a team.**

### **Expectations for Room 27:**

1. Follow Directions
2. Come prepared
3. Respect the Speaker
4. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself
5. No teasing, put downs, profanity or exclusion
6. No food or personal

Failure to follow these rules will result in the following consequences:

1. Verbal Warning
2. Student Identifying the problem and stating a solution
3. Reflection sheet
4. Redirects (Buddy Room or Solo Chair)
5. OCS (On-Campus Suspension)

### **MATERIALS NEEDED:**

**\* spiral bound college-ruled notebook**

**\*INTERNET ACCESS**

**\*Pencil**

**\*Pens (All assignments must use blue or black ink, but you may use any color to take notes)**

**GRADING POLICY:**

This class is a reading/writing/discussion-based class. Your grades will be evaluated on your participation in class, the quality of your writing assignments and projects, and how you perform on tests and quizzes. We will be keeping track of these assignments as a class. I use a **point system** for this course. The breakdown of the grading is as follows:

\*Unit Projects/Essays/Tests: 50%

\*Classwork: 35%

Homework: 15% **In the first semester late assignments may be turned in by the next class meeting. IN THE SECOND SEMESTER NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED (In preparation for 7<sup>th</sup> grade)**

**YEAR AT A GLANCE**

**Marking Period 1:** Narrative

**Marking Period 2:** Argument

**Marking Period 3:** Informational

**Marking Period 4:** Narrative

**Marking Period 5:** Argument

**Marking Period 6:** Research

**MAKE-UP POLICY: HOMEWORK AND TESTS:**

**If you miss homework** - It is your responsibility to see me after you have missed a class. You need to see me before school, the beginning of lunch, or after school. In order to receive full credit for make-up work, it must be completed in the same number of days in which you are absent.

**If you miss a test** – Thursdays during lunch are our designated days to re-take tests. It is your responsibility to see me if you are absent on the day of a test.

**PARENTS AND GUARDIANS:**

I look forward to working with you who are the most influential individuals in our students' lives. By working together, I hope that we can nurture a learning path that our scholars will eventually be able to develop independently and with pride. Below, I have attached a place for your signature, as well as your child's to make sure that we are all in agreement for how the year will look and the expectations that are set. I have also included my phone number and email in case you would like to contact me, either by calling, texting, or email. Please note your preferred form of communication.

Looking forward to a great year. GO PANTHERS!

Ms. Clark, MA ED.

Cell: 510-542-9850

Email: [kia.clark@ousd.k12.ca.us](mailto:kia.clark@ousd.k12.ca.us)

Parent or Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone : \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_