Hull Memorial Middle School

Grade 7 English Language Arts

Course Expectations: 2019-2020

Ms. Lombardi Room 238



Course Description:

Reading: This year's curriculum will incorporate student-centered learning activities related to both fiction and informational text. Some of the larger texts we will read include:

- o *Touching Spirit Bear* by Ben Mikaelsen
- o A Christmas Carol adapted by Israel Horovitz
- o The Boy in the Striped Pajamas by John Boyne
- o The Outsiders by S. E. Hinton

**In addition to these texts, students will read an independent reading book every day and be responsible for assignments around these books as a classwork grade. Please make sure your student has selected an appropriate book for his or her needs (appropriate reading level & appropriate content)

Writing: Students will continue to use the John Collins writing program to further their instruction in the writing process. Students will consider different audiences and purposes and will have the opportunity to write narrative, expository, and argumentative compositions.

This class will emphasize the following course goals:

- College and career readiness
- Development of higher order thinking skills
- Close (critical) reading of complex literature and informational texts (see list above)
- Linking rigorous discussion to purposeful writing
- Finding evidence and using it accurately

Student Expectations: We will follow the same rules in this class as were outlined in the student contract we signed as a 7th grade team. All students are expected to be respectful, be responsible, and be your best!

Remember, you are responsible for your own success!

Required Daily Materials: Each day students will need:

- Fully Charged iPad (or bring charger to class)
- Binder with bathroom passes and login information
- Pencils
- Independent reading book **
- A composition notebook will be kept in the classroom for daily use

**Independent reading books may be provided from home, checked out from the public library or overdrive app, purchased through scholastic (flyers will be sent home periodically), or checked out from the classroom library. Reading from kindle/iBook apps is also acceptable.

<u>Please note</u>: a student becomes responsible for a book once it is checked out of the classroom library. If lost, the student will be responsible for replacing the book.

Grades

Student grades will be posted to Schoology. Here parents can see student work, rubrics, comments, and scores. Assignments are weighted as follows:

Tests, Projects,

Formal Writing Assignments: 35%

Class Work and Participation: 25%

Quizzes: 30%

Homework: 10%

<u>Homework</u>: Homework will be assigned frequently and is posted on the whiteboard each day. *Homework is graded based on effort, rather than accuracy*. Students are responsible for writing down homework in their agendas (paper or electronic) before leaving the classroom. Assignments are also posted on Schoology.

Students are expected to turn in work on time. Late homework will receive half credit. If a student is absent for class, he/she may turn in all work for full credit as long as it is turned in within one week of the absence.

<u>Teacher Commitment</u>: In addition to working with students during enrichment & intervention period, I am available for extra help after school. Students should make a verbal appointment to meet during the school day. I will provide constant feedback and support, and am always available to discuss grades and progress at any point in the year. The best way to reach me is through email, but feel free to check out any of these links for helpful information:

 Email: llombardiatown.hull.ma.us Schoology:
 www.schoology.com

Aspen: https://ma-hull.myfollett.c