

Grandview Elementary School

8th Grade English Language Arts

Mr. Christopher J Campbell

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In order to ensure a successful academic year, the information below should be carefully reviewed and followed.

Course Description: Eighth Grade Language Arts is designed to involve the student in applying reading, writing, listening, speaking, and viewing skills in an independent manner through meaningful interdisciplinary tasks. In reading, we will focus on comprehension and analytical reading skills through the study of a variety of authors and genres. In writing, we will focus on constructing narrative, literary analysis, and research writing. Emphasis is placed on moving from the literal to the abstract in the students' critical thinking skills and in the use of language.

Curriculum: The curriculum for this course aligns with the Tennessee State Standards for the new College and Career Readiness Standards, which may be viewed on the Tennessee Department of Education website, <http://tn.education.gov>

Content Objectives and Goals:

- **To develop proficiency in the conventions of the English language.**
- **To prepare students for the reading and writing skills needed for life as well as those needed in high school, college, and beyond.**
- **To enable students to assume responsibility for his or her own learning.**
- **To develop and enhance note taking skills and organization.**
- **To become a resourceful thinker in rationalizing relevant vs. non -relevant information.**
- **To learn the skill of analyzing and evaluating literature and to explain and communicate it in formal writing.**
- **To master the skills necessary in writing a literature critique and supporting judgments with textual evidence that is relevant and logical.**
- **To master the ability to write formally using literary terms and higher level vocabulary.**
- **To master the ability to select styles of writing and vocabulary that is suitable for the intended audience.**
- **To use various forms of technology in creating individual and group projects.**

Course Schedule

First Nine Weeks Aug.	Second Nine Weeks	Third Nine Weeks	Fourth Nine Weeks
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6- Oct.4	Oct. 15-Dec.19	Jan. 2-Mar. 6	Mar.7-May 24
Reading Foucs: The Call of the Wild Unit	Reading Focus: The Tell Tale Heart Unit	Reading Focus: Flowers for Algernon	Reading Foucs: Conservation Unit/Short Stories
Writing Focus - Narrative Writing	Writing Focus- Arguementative Writing	Writing Focus- Informative/ Expository Writing	Writing Focus- Research
Vocabulary/Grammar	Vocabulary/Grammar	Vocabulary/Grammar	Vocabulary/Grammar

Projects: Various projects will be assigned in class three weeks prior to their due date.