

# Welcome to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade English/Language Arts

**Teacher:** Ms. Felicia Kucharski

**Office Hours:** Everyday 3:20-4:00. It is best to let me know you would like to meet so I am sure to be available.

**School Front Office Phone:** (801)731-9859

Email: [fkucharski@questac.org](mailto:fkucharski@questac.org)

## **Supplies:**

Writing Instruments (pencil *only*)

3 ring binder (with paper in it, college ruled)

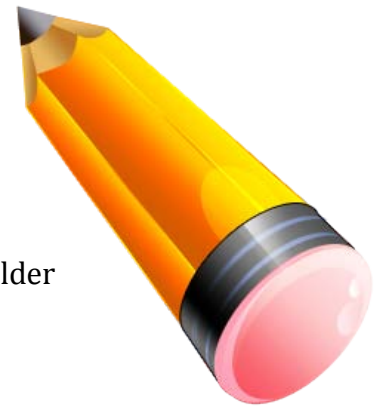
Designated Pocket folder (3 hole punched to have in binder. One folder for each class you have with me)

Thumb drive

Student Planner to track assignments (supplied by the school)

Textbook: (supplied by the school)

Free read book to bring to class *everyday*



## **Behavior Expectations:**

### **1. Respectful Movement**

a. Students are expected to use non-disruptive, respectful behavior in the hallway before school, after school, and during class transitions. Running, pushing, slamming lockers and other disruptive behavior may result in a deduction in citizenship points or a detention referral.

**2. Self Start** – Students will start on regular daily assignments or tasks without being prompted.

**3. Follow Directions** – Students must follow directions the first time given.

\*Please be familiar with the dress code policy as I will be enforcing it.

## **Reward/ Discipline Procedures:**

My class will follow the same rules that are required throughout the entire school.

## **Grading Policy:**

Larger writing assignments and tests will be worth more points than other items. Assignments that will have continual points will be Independent Reading and Journal Writing Points. There will also be spelling, vocabulary, and grammar points integrated throughout, as well as other assignment specific to the content we are currently working on. For each literary unit I will hand out an overview that will outline the unit expectations, along with possible extra credit or extension options.

## **Absent Students:**

Students are responsible to ask for their own missing work. Students have as many days as they missed to get the work completed and turned in to me. For example, if they were absent two days, they have two days (after returning) to complete the missed assignments. *I will not call for*

them. Getting and completing missed work is the STUDENT'S responsibility. If there are extenuating circumstances, please contact me to make arrangements for make-up work.

### **Grading of Student Work and Late Work:**

The student's scores and grades may be accessed at any time online through the Student Information System (SIS). SIS can be accessed through the link on the Quest webpage ([www.questacademycharter.org](http://www.questacademycharter.org)) under the "Get Involved" tab. I will update grades in SIS on a regular basis~ at least once weekly by Thursday or Friday.

If there are points possible but your student's score is blank either your student has been excused from the assignment or it means I have entered the task but not yet entered their score. If your student has a "M", then the assignment is missing and can still be turned in for points. Once it turns to a "0", I will no longer accept the assignment for points. If you have any questions about your student's grades, feel free to contact me.

Students will have one school week, five week days, after the due date to get an assignment turned in to the teacher or it will not be accepted. The student will be docked 10% of the assignment's point value **for every day that it is late** until day six, when it can no longer be turned in for credit.

I will occasionally offer extra credit. When I do, I expect students who are struggling to take advantage of the opportunity!

### **Tardy Policy:**

A student is considered tardy if they are not settled, not in the process of sitting, in their assigned seat when the tardy bell rings. I will shut my door when the bell rings. After that point, if the student wants to enter my classroom, they will need to go the office and get a tardy slip. Extensive tardiness will result in further action.

### **Brief Overview of Assignments:**

- ⊕ Daily Journal – Students will be required to write daily. This will be checked for participation.
- ⊕ Reading –
  - Students will be required to read 20 minutes every day, outside of class. The following items can be considered reading: reading homework for any classes, fiction chapter and non-fiction books, online articles or research, graphic novels, comic books and magazines. (The last three are only considered reading if you read the words, not just look at the pictures.) Activities which are not considered reading outside the classroom would include any social networking sites such as Facebook or MySpace, email, Twitter, texts, gaming and casual surfing in which you do not read; rather, jump from site to site.
  - There will also be reading time provided every day during class. If students are not reading during the allotted time, points will be deducted.
- ⊕ Novels – We will be reading four novels (one per term). These units will include reading, discussions, vocabulary, worksheets, quizzes and tests. The novels we will read this year: *A Little Piece of Ground* by Elizabeth Laird, *Diary of Anne Frank*,

*Harriet Tubman: Conductor of the Underground Railroad* by Anne Petry, *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle.

- ⊕ Term Papers- Each term we there will be a larger writing assignment that we will be working on throughout the term. It will usually be related to the reading we are doing that term. These will be a larger percentage of the student's grade. These writing assignments are important. If you have any question regarding them, please feel free to contact me.
- ⊕ Weekly Spelling and Grammar

*Please cut along this line, sign and return the below portion. Thank you.*

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**Communication:**

Grades will be discussed in your PTC or anytime you would like to set up a meeting to discuss with me any concerns. You will find my email on the first page of this syllabus or on the school website. You can also contact me by phone.

I have read this document and understand what is expected of me in Ms. Kucharski's 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts.

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Student Signature & Date

I have read this document and understand what is expected of my student in Ms. Kucharski's 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts.

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Parent Signature & Date

\*\*Please provide your current email and preferred phone number below so that I may communicate with you readily:

Email

\_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_

Phone

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