

Ms. Laura Cawrse
Powell Middle School



Reading/Language

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(865) 938-9008

2019-2020

The mission of the Knox County Language Arts Department (6-12) is to facilitate learning and empower students to develop and demonstrate effective reading, writing, listening, speaking, viewing, and problem solving skills in their personal, community, and work environments in an ever-changing society.

Materials Needed:

- ❖ Pencils
- ❖ Paper
- ❖ Folder with prongs and pockets (for ELA only)
- ❖ Dividers
- ❖ Highlighter
- ❖ Colored pen
- ❖ Colored pencils
- ❖ Take home folder (for ELA only)
- ❖ Ear buds

Textbooks:

- Prentice Hall, *Literature: Common Core Edition*
- McDougal Littell, *The Language of Literature*

Novels and Films:

The following novels and films may be used for instructional purposes throughout the school year. Although each novel has been approved as appropriate for 6th grade, parental awareness of the following content is advised.

Novels: Tuck Everlasting, Hoot, Holes, Maniac Magee, Crash, Theodore Boone: Kid Lawyer, The City of Ember, The Phantom Tollbooth, Esperanza Rising, Tuck Everlasting, A Long Way from Chicago, A Year Down Yonder, Bud Not Buddy, Island of the Blue Dolphins, The Wizard of Oz, Wonder

Films: Tuck Everlasting-PG, Holes-PG, Maniac Magee-PG, The City of Ember-PG, Wonder-PG, All Summer in a Day,

***If the student or guardian finds any of the above material objectionable, an alternate assignment may be given.

Classroom Library: A variety of age appropriate books are available in the classroom for students to read and check out. Like the books available to check out in the school library, these books are not subject to the same approval process as instructional materials taught in class.

Additional Texts:

Additional texts and resources will be pulled from local and national newspapers, magazines, and online databases. Magazines include *Time for Kids*, *Scholastic*, and *National Geographic Kids*. Specific databases include *World Book Encyclopedia* and *Newsela*.

*This course adheres to **I-431 on Religion in the Curriculum** School Board Policy. The policy may be read at <http://knoxschools.org/Page/2107>.

Assignments:

Students are required to copy assignments in their agenda books each day. Assignments are expected to be completed and turned in by the due date. When a student is absent, it will be his or her responsibility to obtain, complete, and turn in all missed work. Once students return to school they will receive one day for each day absent to turn in missed work. **Late work will be accepted no later than 5 days after the due date and will receive partial credit.**

Assessment:

Students will be assessed in a variety of ways: daily work, homework, projects, essays, quizzes, and formal assessments. Assignments will be given a point value based on the effort that is required. Parents and students can view grades on Aspen (Parent Portal) which is accessed through the Knox County Schools website.

Knox County Grading Scale:

- A 93-100
- B 85-92
- C 75-84
- D 70-74
- U 0-69

Classroom Expectations:

- Be prepared.
- Be respectful.
- Be positive.
- Be involved.

One way in which I am able to communicate with students and parents is through Aspen (Parent Portal.) In order to give timely feedback, I will update grades at least once per week. If you ever have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached by e-mail at **laura.cawrse@knoxschools.org** (preferred method) or by phone at the school, 938-9008. I will return your message as soon as possible.

Please sign and return the following page, indicating you have read the class syllabus.

Sincerely,

Laura Cawrse

I have received a copy of the 2018-2019 Sixth Grade Syllabus that explains procedures and expectations for reading/language arts class.

Parent Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____