

# MIDDLE SCHOOL ENGLISH AND LITERATURE

## INFORMATION

### CONTACT FOR MRS. BALLOU:

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### **English and Literature (Reading) classes will be weighted as follows:**

- 60% of the letter grade is made of up tests and quizzes.
- 30% of the letter grade is made up of homework and assignments done in class.
- 10% of the letter grade is made up of daily points(all necessary materials brought to class).

The 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grades will all have two different grades on their report card. One class is “English” (based on grammar and writing) and the other is “Literature” or “Reading” (based on the actual reading and comprehending of the texts as well as vocabulary). 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be required to do an integrated research project throughout the year with Social Studies and Science.

### **HOMEWORK:**

The students will have homework every night whether it is an assignment out of the book or nightly reading. They should be reading every night for about 20-30 minutes, since they will have a book report assigned each month.

The 6 Traits of Writing is being incorporated school wide. We will be working every other week on the traits and using a 6 point rubric for the students to self grade their work.

**Spelling:** 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders will be assigned a spelling unit every Monday. They will be expected to complete a spelling activity each night so that they are prepared for a test **every Friday**. The only exception is if your child receives a 100% on the pretest that week.

**Vocabulary:** Every middle school student received their own vocab book this year and they are expected to complete each Chapter every week. **There will be a unit test every three chapters.**

## **TESTS AND PAPERS:**

If a student receives lower than a 70% in any of my classes, they have the option of retaking the test. They need to be responsible by coming to remind me that they would like to retake the test.

## **OTHER BOOKS OR NOVELS:**

All of the classes will be reading novels other than what is included in their textbook. This is to help expand their ability to read different kinds of writing and to help develop certain themes that we will be studying throughout the year.