

8TH GRADE ELA & HISTORY

“Let us remember: One book, one pen, one child, and one teacher can change the world.”

MALALA YOUSAFZAI

Teacher Info

MRS. KWIATKOWSKI

E-mail: rkwiatkowski@alansonvikings.net

Phone: 231.548.2261

*Email is the most efficient form of contact!

WELCOME

Welcome to your first middle school English class! Be prepared for reading and writing every day! Our goal this year is to build our “toolbox” of strategies in order to become better readers, writers, and thinkers.

Materials

WHAT YOU NEED DAILY:

- ❖ Something to write with
- ❖ Folder/binder with any handouts
- ❖ Novel to read (assigned or free choice)
- ❖ Homework or extended assignments
- ❖ NO CELL PHONES!

Chromebooks

We will use the Chromebooks often during class. Chromebooks will stay in the classroom. Please make sure yours is plugged in when you are finished with it. Acceptable use for the computers can be found in the student handbook. Please help take care of this technology by treating the Chromebooks respectfully!



Grading

WHAT'S IN A GRADE?

I use a points based system. That means that I will assign however many points I feel that an assignment is worth. The more important and harder the assignment, the more points that it will be worth! Your grade will be a combination of the following:

- ❖ Tests
- ❖ Quizzes
- ❖ Projects
- ❖ Homework
- ❖ In Class Assignments
- ❖ Participation
- ❖ Extra Credit

Missing Work

LATE WORK

Late work will be accepted until the end of that particular unit. Each day an assignment is late, you will lose 10% of the credit that you earned on the assignment. (For example, if you earned an 80%, your final grade will be a 70% if it was turned in one day late.)

You will be allowed three “Redo” forms per semester. This allows you to turn in three late assignments per semester without losing points for it being late. Another option with this form is that if you already turned an assignment in on time but you want to try and earn a better grade you may edit the assignment and resubmit it using this form. Redo forms can be found in the basket labeled, “Redo”.

Passes

Each quarter, you are allowed two (2) passes to be used for bathroom, drinking fountain, or locker. Once your two passes are used, you will have to wait for the next marking period for your next set of passes. Therefore, use your passes wisely! Are you really that thirsty? Any unused passes will count for 1% extra credit each on your final marking period grade. No extra credit for passes will be granted for students with 3 or more missing assignments OR 4 or more absences per marking period.

Extra Credit

Extra credit is not offered on an individual basis; when it is given, every student has an equal opportunity to earn it. Always be ready for an extra credit opportunity! They can appear on tests, when essays are due, and at random times. Be careful! Don't expect extra credit to make up for required work you didn't do. Extra credit opportunities, when they arise, are typically worth only a small amount of points.

Cheating/Plagiarism

Just don't do it. If I discover that you have used someone else's work as your own on purpose you will get an automatic zero for that assignment, no matter how small it may be. If you have done so by accident (say, by using a quote and not citing it correctly) you will have one chance to redo the assignment.

Finishing Early

If by some miracle you have completed all of your work for me to the highest expectations, you need to be reading or writing. No sleeping or distracting others!

The 5P Rules

BE PROMPT

You need to be on time to class. This means you are **INSIDE** the classroom when the bell rings. As soon as you arrive, you need to start the day's Bell Work. Being prompt also means meeting deadlines for assignments and projects.

BE PREPARED

You are responsible for bring all required materials to class each day. I have a limited amount of pens/pencils if you forget, but it can not be a habit! If you have to go to your locker, you will be required to use a pass. Being prepared also means having your homework/assignments completed.

BE PRODUCTIVE

You are responsible for using time in class productively. There should never be a time when you are sitting at your desk doing nothing! Class ends when I dismiss you, not at the bell. Furthermore, please do not pack up your materials more than a minute before the bell is to ring.

BE POLITE

All comments made in class should be respectful in nature. Also, students should listen courteously when someone else is speaking; this also means that your head should not be down on your desk at any time! This also includes treating the classroom environment, including school property, respectfully.

BE POSITIVE

You are expected to have a positive attitude in this class. Positive behavior includes participating in class, paying attention/listening, not being disruptive, encouraging and helping your classmates, etc.

CONSEQUENCES

1. Warning
2. Separation from class; phone call home
3. Referral and phone call home