

**After carefully reading the course expectations, please print, sign, and return the last page.**

**English 8 Course Expectations**

**Mrs. Shannon Bukaty (Rm. 822)**

**School Phone Number: 799-2260**

**School Website: <http://ccsd.net/school/miller>**

**Teacher's E-mail: [sbukaty@interact.ccsd.net](mailto:sbukaty@interact.ccsd.net)**

**Teacher's Website: [my.ccsd.net](http://my.ccsd.net)**

**COURSE SCOPE:**

This course involves an intensive study of grammar, spelling, punctuation, and writing conventions as related to the study of English and literature. Coupling those particular concepts with critical thinking skills, students explore the writing process through a vast array of expository writing samples. Additionally, communication skills through the use of effective listening and speaking skills are integrated into the curriculum.

**COURSE GOALS:**

1. To further develop critical thinking.
2. To further enhance the fundamentals of writing as a process.
3. To write for a variety of purposes and audiences.
4. To analyze models of quality writing.
5. To write and speak using standard English grammar, usage, sentence structure, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.
6. To employ the common terminology needed for the purpose of discussing correct usage, mechanics, and forms of writing.
7. To use stylistic devices effectively in order to improve writing and begin to develop a personal style.
8. To expand vocabulary and increase spelling proficiency.
9. To read and interpret a variety of literature including fiction, nonfiction, drama, and poetry.
10. To apply literary terminology in the analysis of literature.
11. To develop effective speaking and listening skills.
12. To apply library, research and study skills.
13. To respond respectfully to the ideas of others.
14. To develop an understanding of good character and ethics by responding to a wide variety of written and oral communication.
15. To develop an awareness and appreciation of other cultures.

## PRE-ASSESSMENTS:

Each student will take a pre-assessment test during the first week of class to determine areas requiring improvement and strengths in alignment with the Clark County School District English 8 Course Syllabus.

## POST-ASSESSMENTS:

Each student will take the English 8 syllabus-based post-assessment test to determine individual growth in regards to course content, performance objectives, and strengths and weaknesses of the teaching-learning process.

## ASSIGNMENTS:

Students are expected to complete both in-class assignments and homework. In-class assignments include, but are not limited to:

- Bell Work
- Group work
- Study guides
- Reading
- Worksheets

Homework: The standing homework assignment is 20 minutes of reading a night. Students are expected to read a non-school book and must write two pages in their reading journal every week. This is a year long assignment and will be accepted one day late for half credit. **Two days late will result in a zero.** More information about the reading journal will be given during the first weeks of school.

Major projects: Students who are absent on the day a major project is due are expected to turn the project in on the **FIRST** day they return unless other arrangements have been approved prior to their return.

Late Work: Late homework is marked down 10% for each day that it is late. After five days, teachers are not required to accept late work from students. If a student has more than five late assignments in one quarter, the parent/guardian will be notified. Any assignments that are started in class will be considered classwork and will not be accepted late. Additionally, writing assignments will be marked down 25% for each day that it is late.

\*\*\*\*\*Extra credit assignments **DO NOT** generally exist in the Bukaty world. To foster “real world” responsibility, students are expected to complete all assignments by the announced due date.\*\*\*\*\*

**ABESENCES:**

Absences are very disruptive to the learning environment for the student as well as the teacher. An enormous amount of material is covered by direct teacher instruction, student discussion, and student interaction. When a student is habitually absent, his/her ability to benefit from classroom instruction is severely compromised.

Students have three days to initiate contact with a teacher after they return to school due to an absence. Upon initiating contact, the teacher and student will develop a reasonable timeline for missed work to be completed and submitted. **Students will have one week from the original day a test was administered to make up the missed test.** Any student absent for three or more days will be given a minimum of one week to submit missed assignments.

**INCENTIVES:**

Students are paid in Moose Money for weekly quizzes and tests and for sharing/locating information and ideas that are pertinent to the topics we are studying at any particular time. If a student “saves” one hundred dollars, he/she is entitled to buy one grade (it can not be a writing assignment or a test) and change it to a grade of 100%. Additionally, an auction will be held at the end of each quarter whereby each student may bid on items of interest (food, drinks, “Dog Bones,” etc).

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:**

**Any student involved with sharing and/or copying his or her assignments will receive a grade of “0” on the assignment(s) and a “U” in citizenship.**

**ACADEMIC EVALUATION:**

Weekly Quizzes	30% of overall grade
Classwork/Homework	20% of overall grade
Writing Assignments, Tests, Journals, and Projects	35% of overall grade
Class Participation	15% of overall grade

**GRADING SCALE:**

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
Below 60	F

**SEMESTER GRADES:**

1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter Grade	45%	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter Grade	45%
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter Grade	45%	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter Grade	45%
Mid-term Exam	10%	Final Exam	10%

**CITIZENSHIP EVALUATION:**

Citizenship grades are based on daily classroom behavior and adherence to classroom and school rules. Students are “graded” as follows:

**All students begin with 100 points.**

Five points are deducted per incident/citation.

Name on board equals five points and each subsequent check mark placed next to the name equals five points.

Deductions/Citations (5 points per incident)

- ❖ Student possesses gum, candy, water, etc. in class
- ❖ Student is not working on English assignments... (Permission may be granted to student for other class work).
- ❖ Student interrupts the teacher and/or fellow students
- ❖ Student leaves seat without permission
- ❖ Student talks without raising hand
- ❖ Student consciously disregards classroom etiquette
- ❖ Student interferes with other students’ learning

**CITIZENSHIP ONLY GRADING SCALE:**

90-100	=	Outstanding (O)
80-85	=	Satisfactory (S)
70-75	=	Needs Improvement (N)
Below 70	=	Unsatisfactory (U)

In addition to the above citizenship grading scale, the following steps may occur:

- ❖ Parent contact once the behavior falls below the satisfactory level
- ❖ Teacher detention if an infraction so warrants
- ❖ Counselor’s Referral if in the best interest of the child or in the case of repeated problems
- ❖ Dean’s Referral

**PLEASE NOTE: Discipline procedures are a guideline. The order of discipline can be altered at the teacher’s discretion if warranted.**

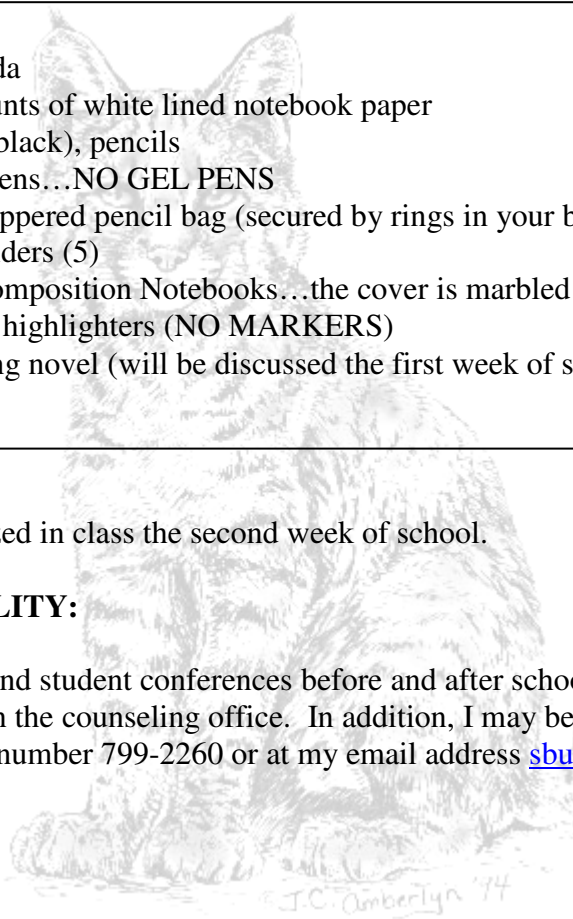
**TARDY POLICY:**

All students are expected to be in class on time. A student is considered tardy when both feet are not in the classroom when the bell begins to ring. Tardy students will be reported to the deans and will receive consequences in accordance with the school-wide tardy policy. Each tardy will also result in the loss of daily participation points.

**BATHROOM POLICY:**

Students are urged to use the restroom during passing periods; however, students are allowed to use the restroom on an as-needed basis. Once the students have had an opportunity to accumulate Moose Money, they are then required to pay \$5 to use the restroom. All students are reminded regularly that if an emergency situation arises (i.e. bloody nose, nausea, etc.), they may leave the room immediately. Abuse or habitual restroom breaks during my class will be discussed with the student and the parent/guardian if need be. If a student has a medical condition, please notify the office.

**SUPPLIES: (Must be brought to class daily--notebook/material checks do occur).**

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1. BMMS Agenda
  2. Copious amounts of white lined notebook paper
  3. Pens (blue or black), pencils
  4. Red grading pens...NO GEL PENS
  5. Heavy-duty zippered pencil bag (secured by rings in your binder)
  6. Notebook dividers (5)
  7. 2 Journals (Composition Notebooks...the cover is marbled...NO SPIRALS)
  8. Multi-colored highlighters (NO MARKERS)
  9. Outside reading novel (will be discussed the first week of school).

Notebooks will be organized in class the second week of school.

**TEACHER AVAILABILITY:**

I am available for parent and student conferences before and after school. Parent appointments must be scheduled through the counseling office. In addition, I may be reached via voice mail through the school phone number 799-2260 or at my email address [sbukaty@interact.ccsd.net](mailto:sbukaty@interact.ccsd.net).

**PARENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:** Please complete and return the form below which verifies that you have received and read the Course Expectations.

**STUDENT INFORMATION:**

Name (last, first): \_\_\_\_\_ Student # \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardians with whom you live:

Address:

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Best time to contact \_\_\_\_\_

Father/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mother/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate the best time and method to contact you. I will gladly respond to e-mails as well as phone calls.

E-mail (if desired) \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

