Diamond Fork Middle School
6th Grade Reading

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Course Description: The sixth grade language arts standards focus on starting college and career readiness. In reading we will focus on comprehension of literature and ways to analyze the author's craft.

Expectations:

1) <u>Respect</u>—respect your teacher, classmates, school, and yourself. Follow directions, listen and talk when appropriate, keep hands and objects to yourself. Come prepared for class and keep cell phones away. Appropriately wear masks when social distancing is not possible (pretty much always).

2) <u>Compassion</u>—Treat others with kindness, including on social media.

3) <u>Courage</u>—Stand up for yourself and others, tackle difficult tasks, and risk making mistakes.

4) <u>Integrity</u>—Demonstrate honesty in actions and words, do your own work.

5) <u>Perseverance</u>– engage and participate during class, complete work on time, and re–do assignments when needed.

6) <u>Curiosity</u>– ask quality questions and demonstrate a desire to know and learn.

Required Materials: Please bring the following to class _EVERY DAY_:

- ❏ <u>Pencil/Pen</u> (_No yellow or red pens, please_).
- ❏ <u>Composition</u> notebook (for reading journal and only if you took it home)
- ❏ <u>Assigned literature book </u>(when doing literature groups)

Participation: The easiest way to keep your participation points high is to do your work in class! It is expected that you bring the book we are working on in class (if you checked it out) and a book of your choice to class daily. Absent work must be made up within two days of the absence or it will be marked as late. Special circumstances will be dealt with individually. Some make–up work may require that you stay after school. Some assignments expire or simply cannot be made up.

*Covid– If you are home on quarantine, you will complete assignments at home using Canvas.

*If you are absent for a quiz or test, you may set up a time with me before or after school to make it up.

Grading Scale:

A– 84.5–100%
B– 69.5–84.4%
C– 54.5–69.4%
F– 0–54.4%

Citizenship: Your citizenship grade in this class will be based on the following scale:

S (Satisfactory) = 80-100
N (Needs improvement) = 60-79
U (Unsatisfactory) = 0-69

While you may lose points for breaking class/school rules, you can earn them back with exceptional behavior, completing work on time, and helping classmates or the teacher.

**Poor behavior for a substitute will automatically drop a student's citizenship to a "U"

Reading List: As a class, we will read a selection of novels from this list: *A Night Divided* by Jennifer A Nielsen, *Out of My Mind* by Sharon Draper, and *The False Prince* by Jennifer A. Nielsen. There will also be various small group books assigned in the reading class. Our main focus in this class is reading. If you have any concerns about a specific novel, please contact me and I can work with you for an alternative.

Classroom Library: Classroom libraries play a key role in providing access to books and promoting reading achievement and motivation. Furthermore, when students possess the skills necessary to access, select, use, and effectively evaluate their reading materials, their ability to become engaged members of their communities and productive citizens is enhanced.

Our classroom library is stocked with a wide variety of materials for various interests and levels. Please be advised that I have not read every book in our classroom library and know that no book is right for every student. I invite parents to work with their students to find books that are appropriate and engaging.
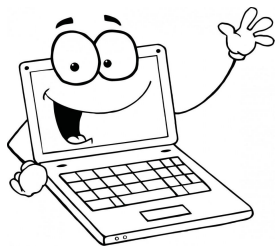
Our classroom has a check-in and check-out procedure for students wishing to check out books from me.

If you have any questions or concerns about what books your student is reading from the classroom library, please contact me.

Homework: The only regular homework is home reading. I require one book a month (minimum of 100 pages) with an accompanying assignment that will be completed in class. You will have class time to complete all other assignments. However, assignments not completed in class become homework. These are to be completed and turned in at the beginning of the next class day unless otherwise stated.

Honesty/Integrity: Cheating in any form is unacceptable. A student who is caught cheating will receive a zero for the assignment/assessment, and will have their citizenship dropped to a "U". In addition, they will feel really guilty for cheating. The student will redo the assignment/assessment for credit.

Food in the classroom: There is none!!! Please do not bring any food into the classroom. Each student should have a water bottle (for water only). Exceptions include snacks that I may provide as part of an activity.

 Chromebooks: We will be using Chromebooks for student learning. It is expected that students adhere to their Computer use Agreement. All students will be trained in and required to abide by classroom procedures. Violations of the Computer Use Agreement or classroom procedures could result in loss of citizenship and suspension of use of the device for an established period of time. This includes being on Websites that are not sites assigned to be on. In the event of vandalism, the student will be required to pay for damages or replace the device if necessary.

Hall passes: You will be given a Diamondback Card at the beginning of each term. Once you've used your hall pass, that's it for the rest of the term. Use it wisely. Come to class prepared!

Canvas: We will be using Canvas, through your child's school email, for all digital assignments. This disclosure document can also be found there. Assignments can be accessed anywhere with the Internet. They can work on any of these assignments from home if not completed in class. During a soft closure, quarantine, or any absence, we will continue to use the same platform for all assignments.

Questions or Concerns: If you find yourself confused or overwhelmed, please talk with me to arrange a time to come in before school or after school so that we can get you the help you need.