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Art I and II

My Educational Philosophy:

To teach means to love your students no matter what, never giving up on them, allowing them to try again, and believing in their potential. To teach is to stand up for the rights and freedom of everyone, advocating for positive social change in a civil and non-violent way. To teach is to be a good person and a life-long learner; true to the cause and values one has. To teach is to seek, as well as invite others to seek, enlightenment (true and complete understanding) which is gained through morality, meditation and wisdom. To teach is to help others to explore and learn, helping them to personally discover “the Way” for themselves (their life calling/meaning and purpose).

Course Overview:

This course will be an introduction into art. This course will last one semester. Students will explore a variety of art-making mediums. Students will learn to identify and use the basic elements of art to create compelling compositions. Students will have the opportunity to explore and communicate abstract ideas and feelings. They will learn and use basic techniques as well as studio routines. Students will view and analyze art from multiple regions around the world and throughout time.

Class Rules and Important Policies:

Unexcused absence and tardiness: Students are expected to show up to class. If students are not present in class, they will miss important instruction and vital studio work time that will be required to complete assignments to the desired standard of excellence.

Electronic Usage: Cell phones can and should be used only as tools in my classroom. Students will be directed by the teacher for times and ways when it is appropriate to use electronics. They should never become toys or distractions. If a student is found to be using their cell phone inappropriately in my classroom, I will follow Diamond Fork Middle School policies. See website for more info:
<https://dfms.nebo.edu/sites/dfms.nebo.edu/files/Electronic%20Devices.pdf>

Late work: Students are strongly encouraged to keep up with the class. Life happens and I understand. I will accept late work up to two weeks past the original posted due date. Students who complete an assignment and turn it in on time are always allowed to redo or fix assignments for a better grade. **No late work or revisions will be accepted during the last week of the term.**

Behavior Expectations:

- Students are expected to be the stewards of their own learning. No student will fail my class if they come to class and work hard each day.
- Students are expected to care for and maintain classroom tools, materials and space. Obvious disregard will result in a chat with student and their parent.
- Students are expected to be accountable for their work and supplies.
- Be respectful and kind to peers and their work.

Information about grading: This course will be using a grading system that is a mix of two different grading theories, Standards Based Grading and Ungrading. To many this will be new and different from traditional grading theories. Questions are expected and welcome.

The way it works is students will be given written and numerically scaled feedback on key projects. This will help students know what they can improve on as well as what is working well in their work, but this will not be connected to any points or letter grade. **Feedback is solely there to help students reach their learning goals.** Students will set learning goals at the beginning and middle of each quarter. Then at mid-term and the end of the quarter, Students will self-evaluate and tell me the letter grade they deserve based on their learning and reaching their personal goals. As long as there is a well-supported response from students, they will receive the grade they ask for. In the case of big discrepancies between the grade desired by students and the data collected by the teacher, one on one mini conferences will be held with student to reach a mutual agreement as to where they are at.

Academic Integrity Policy: Students are expected to live by high standards of integrity and honesty in my classroom. Failing to meet this standard will result in one-on-one discussions with the teacher, administrator, and/or parents/guardians.

Accessibility Commitment: I will follow Nebo School District's Accessibility Commitment. For more info, please check the website: <https://www.nebo.edu/accessibility>

Additional Information: This course has a course fee that needs to be paid by all students (except those who qualify for fee-waiver). These funds are used to buy the materials needed to create art in our classroom. Please pay for these in the office. Do not bring cash or checks to me.

Some materials could be toxic or harmful if misused. Student need to be attentive to instructions and follow all guidelines.

(Students can't use paint and brushes until they have uploaded to Canvas the signed disclosure document.)

We have read, understand, and agree to abide by the above guidelines.

Parent signature _____

Student signature _____