Mrs. Allen

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RM 11

Welcome to 7th Grade English! This year you will gain skills through reading, writing, and research that will help you throughout your life. In order to be successful in this class, you will need to become familiar with the information below:

Grading
Grades are weighted as follows:

50% Class Assignments/Participation
50% Mastery Scores (Quizzes and Major Assignments)

With all assignments, I expect you to follow directions and write complete sentences in legible handwriting.

Grade Scale:
A-90-100%
B-80-89%
C-70-79%
I- 0-69%

Independent Reading
Each week you are required to read 90 minutes outside of class (class novels count as independent reading).

Materials
You must bring a **pencil, paper, and a book** (your own book and/or class book) to class **each day**. We will do many of our writing assignments on the class Chromebooks, but I would also like you to bring paper to class each day.

Preparedness / Make-up and Late Work
Besides turning in quality work, you must also turn in assignments on time to earn full credit. I will still collect assignments up to a week after the due date for partial credit. If you are absent when I give an assignment, you are responsible to get any missing work as soon as you get back, either before or after school, in class, or during E-Time.

Mastery of Concepts
The purpose of this class is to help you master skills in reading and writing. On Mastery Assignments, you must earn a score of 80% or higher or you will have to redo it. Like all other assignments, you have one week to redo Mastery Assignments. I am more than happy to help you with redoing all assignments! I want you to succeed in this class!

Classroom Novel Studies
You will develop reading skills through the study of novels, short stories, non-fiction selections, poetry and plays. For whole-class study we will read *Touching Spirit Bear* and *Nothing But The Truth*, among other texts. For more information about these books, please visit www.commonsensemedia.org.

Important Disclaimer I have not read all the books in my classroom library. Students should consult guardians and use personal discretion in choosing books to read. If you encounter a book with questionable content, please inform me so I can keep the shelves updated with the best books for the students.

Film Study
Occasionally we use film in class to supplement a novel we are reading or a topic we are studying. At the end of the school year, we will be doing an adaptation unit, in which we read books by Chris Van Allsburg (*Jumanji, Zathura*) and watch their film adaptations.

Citizenship
Students start each term with 100 citizenship points. Failure to follow class and school rules will result in a loss of citizenship points. Your citizenship is Satisfactory (S) until you drop below 85 points. If you fall below 85 points, your citizenship Needs Improvement (N). Students below 70 points have Unsatisfactory Citizenship (U). Maintaining Satisfactory Citizenship is important, not only for its correlation to classroom learning but also for eligibility reasons. Students below *S* cannot participate in any school activities.
Our class rules correspond with Diamond Fork's core values of **Respect, Compassion, Courage, Curiosity, Integrity,** and **Perseverance**.

DIAMOND FORK VALUES CITIZENSHIP	
RESPECT	I take care of my property, school property, and the property of others. I treat students, staff, teachers, and substitutes with dignity. I follow classroom and school rules. I come prepared for class.
COMPASSION	I treat others with kindness and empathy at all times, including on social media. I watch for others who may need a friend, especially members of my team.
COURAGE	I stand up for myself and others. I tackle tasks that are difficult. I risk making mistakes. I learn from my mistakes and try again.
CURIOSITY	I ask quality questions. I demonstrate a desire to know and learn. I share my viewpoint and listen to the viewpoint of others.
INTEGRITY	I demonstrate honesty in my actions and words. I work to be my best self in every situation. I do my own work without copying others or allowing others to copy from me.
PERSEVERANCE	I engage and participate during class. I complete my assignments on time. I re-do assignments to strive for mastery of concepts.

Complying with these rules will help you be successful academically and socially in this class.

Attendance
It is vital you are in class in order to keep up and understand our mastery goals. Be in class, and be there on time. Class starts when the bell rings. We only have 40-45 minutes together a day, and we need to be able to use every minute of class available. Missing class and being late will have a negative impact on your success in the class and your citizenship. Points will be deducted for every tardy.

Expectations
You will be expected to follow certain expectations in order to succeed. My general rule is **"Feel free to do anything that doesn't cause a problem for anyone else."** Specifically, this means that you should treat yourselves, each other, the teacher, and the learning time with respect and use common sense.

Consequences
I believe that you should be in charge of managing your own behavior and consequences. Because of this, I follow the Love and Logic system with these guidelines and expectations:

- If you cause a problem, I will ask you to solve it. (Your warning)
- If you can't solve the problem, or choose not to, I will do something.
- What I do will depend on the unique situation. (but can include reaching out to administration and parents/guardians or loss of participation points towards your grade)

Cheating & Plagiarism
Cheating in any form is unacceptable. Students who cheat will receive a zero for the assignment/assessment, and will have their citizenship dropped to a "U". The student will redo the assignment/assessment for 50% credit.

Cell Phones
If a student chooses to bring a cell phone to school, it must stay in their backpack. We ask parents not to text students during class, but parents may always call the front office and we will deliver an emergency message during class time to a student or call the student down to the office phone to speak to a parent. Students may check messages on phones during passing time or lunch. Students may have a bathroom pass when needed, but cell phones stay in the classroom during a **bathroom break**. This is a school policy.

ChromeBooks
We are lucky enough to have ChromeBooks in our classroom. ChromeBooks help us learn and provide us with learning opportunities we wouldn't have otherwise. However, ChromeBooks can be a major distraction in class. If students are found playing games or being off task while on their ChromeBook, they will lose citizenship points. If the problem persists, they may lose ChromeBook privileges. If students do not take care of their ChromeBook and damage them, they may lose their privileges and pay for damages.

Need Extra Help?
There are times that you may be confused or overwhelmed with your work. **If at any point, you feel yourself struggling, PLEASE come see me** before school, after school, or during E-time so that we can get you started. I want to help you be successful! As a teacher, my priority is YOU, the student. All decisions that I make are designed with your benefit in mind. I want nothing more than to make sure that we've both done our best to ensure you succeed throughout the year.

Contact Information
If you have any questions or concerns about class, you can reach me at my school email, mercedes.allen@nebo.edu.