

Reading 7 (Mr. Ryan)

Disclosure Document: Policies and Procedures

Course Description

In this reading class, we will focus on comprehension of literature and ways to analyze an author's craft. Books are one of the best ways to understand the past as well as the world around us today. We will talk about how the themes of past decades of literature still apply to today. By the end of the semester, my goal is that you as students will be proficient in analysis of theme and will have made progress in your reading level.

Class Novels

We will read two novels together: *Ghost*, by Jason Reynolds, and *Touching Spirit Bear*, by Ben Mikaelson. The protagonists in both books are roughly your age and deal with many of the same problems you do. I have yet to meet a 7th grader who didn't love both of these books!

Literature Circles

Two times during the semester, students will have the opportunity to choose books and participate in literature circle discussions. Students will agree to read a book with a small group and direct their own discussions each week about plot, character, and theme.

Grading

Our grading scale is as follows:

A=84.5% and up

B=69.5% to 84.4%

C=54.5% to 69.45%

F=54.4% and lower

Independent Reading

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

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.

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

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.

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.

Materials

You must bring a pencil, paper, and 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 in your binder.

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.

Need Extra Help?

There are times that you may be confused or overwhelmed with your work. Please talk with me to

arrange a time to come in before school, after school, or during E-time so that we can get you started. I want to help you be successful!

Contact Information

If you have any questions or concerns about class, you can reach me at DFMS's phone number, 801-798-4052, or at my school email, reilly.ryan@nebo.edu.

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Student and Parents/Guardians,

After reading the information above, print and sign your names below to show that you understand this class's policies and procedures and are willing to adhere to them.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____