

Mrs. Johnson's 8th Grade Literature and Writing Classroom Management Plan

Course Description:

Our Literature and Writing class is driven by the Common Core State Standards, integrating AVID strategies, and the use of the workshop model for reading and writing. Incorporating WICOR (writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization and reading) will help engage students in deep analysis of literature and crafting their writing to better prepare each student for high school level work and beyond.

Guidelines and Rules:

- The classroom is a safe environment; each student is expected to be respectful in speech and actions toward others.
- When someone is talking the rest of the class is listening.
- Students will be attentive and stay on task during class time; this includes laptops.
- **Bottom Line: It is never okay to be disruptive or hurtful.**

Daily Classroom Procedures:

- Grab your assigned laptop, sit down and take out your readers notebook, writers notebook, agenda, independent reading book, and a pencil/pen
- All binders go on the floor within one minute of the bell ringing
- Sit down quietly and complete your bell ringer and welcoming ritual
- Participate in optimistic closure at the end of each class period

Expectations:

- Respect yourself
- Respect others
- Respect the classroom and school environment
- **Students are expected to be in their seats and prepared for class when the bell rings.**
- Students are expected to come to class with a binder every day. In the binder students should have their agenda, SSR book, writing and literature notebooks, and a writing utensil.
- Cell phones should be in the lockers and not in use in the classroom.
- Students will work cooperatively with other learners and be willing to resolve conflicts that occur.
- I dismiss you at the end of the hour, not the bell
- **One of the most important things you can and need to do is PARTICIPATE!**

**Welcoming rituals and optimistic closures are part of our social emotional learning (SEL) practices. They are designed to bring a sense of community and belonging to the classroom by promoting collaboration and integration among all students.

Classroom Management Techniques

Should a student to require discipline, the following techniques will be used:

- Nonverbal cues (look, head nod/shake, eye contact, etc)
- Proximity
- Redirection/Reminder to stay on task
- One-on-one conference with teacher and student
- Lunch detention, better known as a “lunch date”
- Blatant disrespect, cheating, or unsafe behavior may result in an immediate office referral

Rewards

- Verbal and written praise to encourage students is provided consistently.
- Students are often rewarded with candy and/or other treats.
- Learning as its own reward is recognized- achievement matters in our classroom and will be acknowledged by the teacher to the student’s parents and within our community of learners.

BIST

Although BIST is not a punishment, it is a behavior philosophy that our entire district, and especially WMS, is following to help students become more aware of their emotions, and more accountable for their behavior.

BIST Goals for Life

- I can take good care of myself even if I am mad.
- I can be productive and follow directions even if I do not want to.
- I can be okay, even when others are not okay.

BIST Placement Options

- 1st Classroom Seat
- 2nd Safe Seat
- 3rd Buddy Room (a call will me made to parents)
- 4th Recovery Room or Office Referral

Severity Clause: If a student breaks the rules in such a way that endangers their safety or the safety of others, then they are removed from the classroom and referred to the office at once.

Grading Scale

- A 90-100
- B 80-89
- C 70-79
- D 60-69
- F 50-59

Grade Book for Literature

Accelerated Reader: Students are given independent reading time in class and are expected to read 30 minutes each night. Each student is tested 3 times per year to determine their reading level and assigned an individualized reading goal. Reading progress is tracked through the Accelerated Reader (AR). Students earn points toward their reading goal by taking quizzes on books they read. Achievement of their reading goal accounts for **35%** of the student's overall grade.

Assessments: Tests, quizzes, and projects will be considered assessments. Assessments account for **30%** of the student's grade.

Class Work: The majority of student work will be completed in class. The completion of class work is a vital part of the learning process and accounts for **30%** of the student's grade.

Homework: Students will read a minimum of **30 minutes** after school every day in addition to other assignments. If a student is missing multiple assignments, a phone call home will be made to make parents aware. Homework accounts for 5% of the grade, and will also reflect in all other grading categories.

Grade Book for Writing

Homework: Students will be required to complete any writing assignments that were not finished in class at home. If a student is missing multiple assignments, a phone call home will be made to make parents aware. Homework accounts for **5%** of the grade. However, success with homework will also reflect in all other grading categories.

Notebook Checks: Students will be required to keep an organized notebook each quarter that will be checked periodically. Notebooks should include all teaching points for the week, any handouts provided by the teacher, and any required writing for the week. Keeping an organized notebook is vital for the writing process and will help the student when publishing his/her writing at the end of each unit. Notebook checks will account for **30%** of the student's overall grade.

Drafts/Classwork: Students will use a majority of class time to use the teaching point from the day to draft their writing. It is extremely important that students are writing as we move through each unit before we begin drafting for our published piece of writing. The completion of class work is a vital part of the learning process and accounts for **30%** of the student's grade.

Published Writing: As we move through each writing unit, students will be required to publish 2-3 pieces of writing. Each published piece is an assessment for the bend or unit of writing. Published writings account for **35%** of the student's overall grade.

Late Work/Homework Policy:

- All work turned in within the due date will receive full credit.
- Late assignments will be accepted at the teacher’s discretion, and must be turned in the next day to receive credit. There will be a late grade assigned.
- **Once we have changed topics, no late work will be accepted for the previous topic**
- A zero, “0,” will be given in the grade book if no work is submitted and lunch/ after school was not attended.
- After Grades are submitted no work is accepted (Mid-Term, Quarter, End of Unit)

****I understand that things happen, please talk to me so we can work things out. My ultimate goal is to see and help you succeed!

Parent Contact:

Remind 101, Google Voice, and the teacher’s website will be used to keep in contact with parents. All parents should have access to the intranet so they are able to check their child’s grades as well. If you need any assistance, please feel free to contact me via telephone, email, or an in-person visit.

WMS telephone number: 217-525-3182

My email address: frowl@sps186.org

I have read and understand the rules for Mrs. Johnson’s Literature and Writing class.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian’s Email Address:

Student Signature:

Date