**Hephzibah Middle School**

**7th Grade Language Arts**

**Mr. Timothy L. Lyons**

**Course Syllabus 2023-2024**

***“If not you, then who? If not now, then when.”***

**Welcome to 7th Grade:**

Welcome to 7th grade! This is an exciting year for students as they embark on a new journey and explore more in the world of learning. This is an important year of transition as well a year of acquiring new skills. It is my ultimate goal to make your child’s learning experience fun and exciting as I instill in them a new fond love and excitement for learning. Each child will progress at their own rate, acquiring new skills as they are developmentally ready. Therefore, maintaining each child’s self-esteem and building a secure foundation for future growth will always remain a priority in my classroom. I see myself having a large impact on their future development and growth towards their search of identity and outlook on life itself. It is my desire to help students meet their full potential in these areas by providing an environment that is safe, supports risk taking, and invites a sharing of ideas. I am looking forward to working with your child this year and helping them achieve their fullest potential.

**Course Description:**

The grades six through eight standards define what students should understand and be able to do by the end of each grade. Students should be able to comprehend more challenging books and articles, basing all their analyses, inferences, and claims on explicit and relevant evidence from the texts. Students will expand on their ability to identify central ideas by identifying how those themes are shaped and conveyed by details.  While continuing with a variety of literary non-fiction, students in grades 6-8 will begin to tackle more technical informational texts as well. Literary selections will include foundational materials from mythology, cultural histories, and religious traditions.​

**Curriculum Map**

Unit 1: Development of Characters/Ideas; Narrative Writing

Unit 2: Central Ideas; Informative/Expository Writing

Unit 3: Text Structures; Argumentative Writing

Unit 4: Point of View; Argumentative Writing

Unit 5: Summarizing Text; Narrative Writing

Unit 6: Text Analysis; Research Writing

**Expectations:**

1. Respect:
   1. Treat teachers, classmates, guest, classroom materials, desk and other property with respect.
   2. Participate in class. Tell us what you think. Show what you know. Explain!
   3. Behave in a manner that reflects the good and appropriate behavior you have been taught.
   4. Raise your hand and wait to be acknowledged before you share.
2. Responsibility:
   1. Arrive on time and ready to learn.
   2. Come to class daily with all supplies.
   3. Learn and retain materials taught to you.
   4. If you need help, ask!

**Consequences: Hephzibah Middle School Behavior Plan will be followed**

1. Verbal Warning
2. Student-Teacher Conference
3. Call Parent/ Guardian
4. Parent Conference
5. Referral to Administration

**\*\*\*Exceptions will be strictly enforced and students will be reminded of these expectations through the school year. \*\*\***

**Academic Grade Reporting:**

Middle school student performance will be recorded and reported in all courses by numerical grades, based on a 100-point scale.

**Calculation of Final Grades**

Final grades will be determined by the cumulative semester average using the following criteria:

**Minor Grades = 60%**

Examples include quizzes, labs, and other graded assignments to assess certain standards in a unit of study

**Major Grades = 40%**

Examples include unit tests, essays, research papers, project-based assignments, and other culminating assessments to measure mastery of standards that comprise a unit of study.

**Content Mastery Assessments**

These assessments will be given quarterly in all core content areas.

**Academic Grading Scale**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **A** | Represents an average of **90-100** |
| **B** | Represents an average of **80-89** |
| **C** | Represents an average of **75-79** |
| **D** | Represents an average of **70-74** |
| **F** | Represents an average of **below 70** |

**Late Work**

Students are expected to complete and turn in assignments by the assigned due date. If you are absent on the day the assignment is due, please turn in your assignment the day you return.

**Make-Up Work**

Students are expected to make-up assignments and assessments missed due to absence from school. It is the student’s responsibility to ask teachers for the make-up work upon returning to class. Make-Up work must be completed within 5 days of returning to school.

**Tutoring:**

Available upon request of student or parent.

**Conferences:**

Please contact me directly to schedule a conference.

**Contact Information:**

**Phone: (706)592-4535 (School)**

**(945)300-9432 (mobile)**

**Email:** [**LyonsTi1@BOE.richmond.k12.ga.us**](mailto:LyonsTi1@BOE.richmond.k12.ga.us)

**Remind: text @hmsrebels7 to 81010**

**\*\*By signing below, we acknowledge that we (my child and I) have read and understand the Course Syllabus for 7th grade Language and Literature for the 2023-2024 school year. Please sign and complete this sheet and keep the syllabus in your folder or binder. \*\***

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent and/or Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent and/or Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent and/or Guardian Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent and/or Guardian Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_