Dear 8th Grade Students and Families,

Welcome to the 2025-2026 school year at Murphey Middle School! I'm thrilled to be your 8th Grade English Language Arts teacher this year. My name is Mr. Tavias Bennett and I'm excited to embark on this literary journey with you.

As we dive into the world of language, literature, and communication, I want you to know that our classroom will be a place of creativity, critical thinking, and growth. This year, we'll explore fascinating stories, craft compelling essays, and develop essential communication skills that will serve you well beyond middle school.

In 8th grade Language Arts, we have high expectations for our students:

1. Embrace reading as a gateway to new worlds and perspectives.
2. Develop your unique voice through various forms of writing.
3. Engage in thoughtful discussions and debates about literature and ideas.
4. Take responsibility for your learning and assignments.

To our students: This is a year of growth and increasing independence. I encourage you to challenge yourselves, ask questions, and take risks in your learning. Your voice and ideas matter!

To our families: Your support is crucial to your child's success. While our 8th graders are becoming more independent, your involvement in their education remains vital. Please stay connected with our classroom activities, encourage reading at home, and maintain open communication with me throughout the year.

I'm looking forward to a year filled with literary adventures, creative projects, and meaningful discussions. Together, we'll unlock the power of language and storytelling!

Let's make this an unforgettable year in Language Arts!

Warmly, Mr. Bennett

8th Grade English Language Arts Teacher Murphey Middle School