**9th Grade ELA (English/Language Arts)**

**Mr. Chatman**

**Westside High School (2023-2024)**

**Email:** [**chatmja@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us**](mailto:chatmja@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us)

Welcome to Westside High School! My name is Mr. Chatman, and I’ll be your English/literature teacher for the year. Let’s learn together and more importantly­­­, have fun! Please take some time to read, review, sign, and return the bottom half of your syllabus by \_**14 Aug 2023**\_.

***\*\*\*Students and Parents... please come back to the syllabus for periodic updates on assignments, lesson plans, final grades, etc.! I will also send out important notices on the Remind app and via email also\*\*\****

**How To Contact Me**

* Canvas
* The Remind app (two separate sections: one separate for my regular classes and another for my Honors classes)
* Email

**Student Expectations per Handbook**

**Punctuality**

Students are expected to be in class on time every day for each period of the day. Starting the **second Monday *of*** the year (August 14th), tardies will be in effect!

The school day begins promptly at 7:25 a.m. ending at 2:15 pm.

Five minutes are allotted between classes. Within the first week, we understand! A one-minute warning bell gives students last minute notice. After the first week, the expectation will kick in to arrive on time.

**Absences**

Excused absencesè turn into the main office! (Check student handbook for specifics)

It is your responsibility(!) to keep up with ANY missed work. If possible, please alert me in advance of absences. Canvas will be the primary method work is assigned online. Pay close attention to dates for make-up work/tutoring opportunities if needed.

**Dress Code**

Students are to not wear any clothing that will distract others in the learning process! Check your student handbook for details. Admins and other school officials will determine what is appropriate for the school setting. Unless worn for religious purposes, no types of head coverings are allowed.

**Public Displays of Affection**

Please don’t inappropriately touch your fellow students. This includes but isn’t limited to: hand holding, hugging, kissing, etc. Always show respect for yourselves and others!

**Fighting and Bullying**

Again, keep your hands to yourself! Refer to your handbook for disciplinary measures. Fighting isn’t the way. Period!

**Cell Phone Policy**

**\*Refer to the RCSS BYOT (Bring Your Own Technology) Code of Conduct\***

Cell Phones are allowed for instructional use only. Students should follow the guidelines stated in the Bring Your Own Technology Manual.

**Updated Classroom Rules (8/9/23)**

No profanity. No use of cell phones, AirPods, or other technological devices (besides school-distributed laptop) unless given **DIRECT** permission from Mr. Chatman. If I assign seats, they’ll stay assigned according to my discretion. Finally, please respect the speaker in the classroom. Whether I or another student is speaking, it’s impolite to talk while they’re speaking.

**Updated Classroom Rules, pt. II (8/9/23)**

Consequences:

1st = Verbal Warning

2nd = Parent/Legal guardian involvement

3rd = Administrator involvement

**Bathroom News…**

Please try to go before class.

The first ten and last 10 minutes of class…no bathroom passes will be given out. Unless it’s an extreme emergency, then I’ll use my discretion. Use the nearest bathroom near my class! One student will be allowed outside the classroom at a time.

The lesson will continue while you’re using the restroom. It’s your responsibility to get any information missed during lesson. Use your peers to gather missed information.

**Classwork/Homework/Plagiarism**

Carry yourself in the classroom with all integrity meaning do your own work. You’re cheating yourself out of an education if you plagiarize. Parents and administrators ***will be*** involved if I detect plagiarism. Refer to the handbook. If you copy someone else’s work without citing it…the trouble isn’t worth it!

As far as homework goes, I will do my best to not send you home with extra work unless:

* **Classwork isn’t done in a timely fashion**
* **Assignments done in class need more time to be fully completed**

**Materials Needed**

Most assignments will be distributed online. Upon request, I can provide you with hard copies of your tests, quizzes, assignments, etc. Remember to put your name on your tests, quizzes, assignments, etc. No name work can’t and won’t be graded 😊!

**LATE WORK:** If work is submitted late, students will earn an “0” in the gradebook. Work will be accepted late, up to two weeks prior to the end of the grading period. Once graded the grade will be changed. Once progress reports are posted, you will not be able to do work from that time period.

**RCSS Grade Policy**

Cumulative semester average using the following criteria:

Minor Grades = 60%

Examples: quizzes, labs, and other graded assignments to assess standards

Major Grades = 40%

* + - Examples: unit tests, essays, research papers, project-based assignments, and other culminating assessments to measure mastery of standards

Content Mastery Assessments will be given quarterly in all EOC-tested courses

Final Exams/EOC will count for ***10%***of the overall grade for each high school course

Academic Grading Scale

A = 90-100 B = 80-89

C = 75-79 D = 70-74

F = an average of below 70

Once you and your parent/guardian have read the course policies, please sign, date, and **submit this page to Mr Chatman.**

**I have read, and understand the expectations for this course, and my parent/guardian has reviewed the syllabus.**

Student name (print): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What is the best way to contact you? (Circle one)

**Phone E-mail**

Is there anything you would like me to know about this student?