

8th Grade English Language Arts

ELA Team Teachers:

Literature and Vocabulary- Mrs. Alyson Messier amessier@csdo.org

Writing and Grammar- Ms. Candace Bacon cbacon@csdo.org

Writing- Ms. Paula Bryant pbryant@csdo.org

The Junior High English Language Arts Curriculum will be driven by the study of literature and writing but will incorporate skill development in vocabulary, grammar, speaking, listening, and higher- level thinking.

Literature

In literature, students will continue to develop fluency, stamina, and comprehension while practicing reading skills and strategies. Students will be exposed to works of fiction and nonfiction as they move through the curriculum. Students are expected to show their critical thinking through reader's responses and be able to write 5-paragraph literary analysis for novels read in class.

Novels:

Students will complete an in-depth novel study each trimester:

To Kill A Mockingbird- Harper Lee

A Christmas Carol- Charles Dickens

A Midsummer Night's Dream- William Shakespeare

Two Among the Righteous Few- Marty Brounstein

The Boys in the Boat (Young People's Edition) – Daniel James Brown

Independent Reading

Eighth grade will participate in the school wide Accelerated Reader program. Progress through out the trimester will be recorded in PowerSchool at the time progress reports and report cards are released. Pages read each trimester will be recorded as a summative grade for that trimester.

1st Trimester: 900 pages

2nd Trimester 1000 pages

3rd Trimester 1100 pages

Vocabulary

Exposing students to rich expressive language will increase their vocabulary in speaking, writing, and reading. Our vocabulary classes are built to provide your child with the ability to learn and grow through the understanding of word relationships.

Vocabulary Workshop: Sadlier Connect, Level D, Sadlier

website: sadlierconnect.com/ @51906

Writing

Eighth grade writers will learn, understand, and practice the writing process: prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing. Students will focus on writing well-developed paragraphs as they transition to essay writing in informative, narrative, and argumentative genres of writing.

Grammar

Eighth graders will continue developing and practicing fundamental grammar from previous years. Throughout the year, students will focus on building upon previous knowledge of grammar rules and usage as well as learning new skills aligned with the Common Core standards for language. These skills will be utilized and incorporated through academic writing and projects.