

Harris County Carver Middle School

11696 Highway 27

Hamilton, Georgia 31811

(706) 628-4951 Fax (706) 628-5737

Melissa Hayes
Principal

Carl Dekker
Assistant Principal

Bette Mobley
Assistant Principal

Team 7-1 Advanced English Language Arts

Course Overview

Seventh grade Language Arts focuses on grammar, vocabulary, writing, and literature. The curriculum covers all strands of the Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) such as reading; reading across the curriculum; writing; conventions; and listening, speaking, and viewing. For a more in-depth look at these strands, please visit this [website](http://bit.ly/2hvOkqD) (<http://bit.ly/2hvOkqD>).

Philosophy for Advanced/Gifted

As an advanced ELA teacher, I will be committed to a rigorous and innovative instructional program that fosters the highest level of excellence and recognizes the right of each student to receive intellectual challenge appropriate for his/her capabilities. I will provide differentiated instructional services for intellectually gifted and high achieving students from a variety of social, economic, and cultural backgrounds.

Summer Reading

Students will be expected to read the novel Divergent by Veronica Roth and complete the summer coursework. This will include the summer course packet. Students are expected to read the novel and complete the summer course packet **before** the first day of school.

Units of Instruction

<i>First Nine Weeks</i> Theme: "Voices Against Conformity" Anchor Text: <u>The Giver</u> by Lois Lowry <ul style="list-style-type: none">• RACE writing strategy• Using context clues• Making inferences• Phrases and clauses• Argumentative writing	<i>Second Nine Weeks</i> Theme: "The Hero's Journey" Anchor Text: <u>The Hobbit</u> by J.R.R. Tolkien <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Symbolism• Elements of plot• Sentence structure• Commas• Narrative writing
<i>Third Nine Weeks</i> Theme: "The Power of Words" Anchor Text: <u>The Book Thief</u> by Markus Zusak <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Greek/Latin affixes• Figurative language• Ethos, pathos, and logos• Sentence structure• Informative/explanatory writing	<i>Fourth Nine Weeks</i> Theme: "Guided by a Cause" Anchor Text: <u>The Book Thief</u> (cont.) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elements of poetry• Close reading and annotating• Reinforcement of grammar concepts• Misplaced modifiers

Anchor Activities

There will be Anchor Activities assigned for Advanced students each nine weeks. Rubrics and instructions will be provided.

Expectations and Rules

The seventh grade year can be quite difficult if careful attention to organization is not a priority. You are expected to be on time for class and to write down all homework assignments in your agenda; random agenda checks may be done. All school policies concerning behavior, tardiness, and dress will be followed and enforced. The school's point system will be used in class as a means of communication. Students who show dedication and responsibility will find that they will experience success in Advanced Language Arts.

Textbook & Materials

- Pen and Pencil: These must be brought to class daily. The pen must be either standard blue or black ink.
- Textbook and novels: Textbooks are used in the classroom only. The textbook for 2016-2017 is *Georgia Collections* by Houghton, Mifflin, & Harcourt. Novels will be distributed at various times throughout the year.
- Three-ring binder with paper.

Late / Make-up Work Guidelines

The school policy concerning make-up work will be adhered to as indicated in the HCCMS Student Handbook. The expectation is that you submit all assignments on time. I accept late assignments for three days after the due date. You will lose 10% of your grade for each day that it is late. Students who are absent should check the make-up work bin the day they return; they will have two days to turn in any work they missed. **It is the student's responsibility to collect and keep track of their make-up work.**

Grading Policy

Classwork 35%, Homework 15%, Tests and quizzes 20%, Final Exam 15%, Anchor Activity 15%

Contact Information

E-mail: sharpe-r@harris.k12.ga.us

Conference Period: 2:00 – 2:50pm

Phone: (706) 628-4951

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I hereby confirm that I have read and understand the above guidelines and consequences. I agree to abide by these limits. I also agree that should I not abide by the limits, the teacher has the right to enforce the school disciplinary policy.

Student signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian signature _____ Date _____