

April 11, 2016

Dear Student and Parent,

Your sixth grade year is quickly coming to a close, but we're not finished yet. We need your dedication, strong work ethic, and support to see you through the end of the year. For our last unit, students will read S. E. Hinton's novel *The Outsiders*. This unit will take us through to the end of May. Grades will be collected through the last week of May. It is very important to stay organized and meet all deadlines as there will not be time to make-up/turn in missing or late work. To aid students in this endeavor your sixth grade team has attached an action plan. A end of year calendar will also come home as soon as it is finalized.

- Students will read *The Outsiders* in class. Students will generally be expected to read two chapters each week – approximately 30 pages per week. This is typically 45-60 minutes of reading done in class.
- Students will complete one task for every two chapters read. This is a total of six (6) formative tasks and one Final Summative task that reflects a theme from the entire novel. Students will have a choice each week to select different types of tasks from five (5) categories.
- Students must complete at least one task in three of the five different categories and no more than three tasks in any one category. At least one work day per task will be given to allow students to work on their task. It is important that students use their time wisely and come prepared with all necessary supplies on these work days. Unprepared students will be assigned a learning task by the teacher.
- Note that all tasks are due on Fridays. No late work will be accepted after the following Tuesday that the task was due. Parent Portal will be updated weekly to reflect which assignments have been turned in.
- The combined average score of the six (6) formative tasks will be one summative grade. The final task will be one summative grade. There will also be an *Outsiders* summative test covering the novel, its themes, vocabulary, and figurative language.
- Quality work and attention to details is vital for good grades on all tasks. This will be expected on the first attempt.
- Should a student fail to meet our standards they will be allowed to select a **different task from a different category** for that week to replace the poor grade. Students will only be given this opportunity twice during the unit and will be given a new due date that must be met. The original task and new task must be turned in together.
- Detailed task instructions will be given/available in class. A general outline and each week's tasks description are posted on each teacher's website. Task choices include Graphics, Expressive, Reflective, Logical, and Musical choices.
- At the end of the unit students who have completed all tasks and are passing ELA will participate in an activity that includes viewing edited clips of the movie *The Outsiders* starring C. Thomas Howell, Ralph Macchio, and Matt Dillon (1983). Parents who would like to have their student opt out of the activity simply need to contact the student's ELA teacher.

Questions and concerns can be addressed by your teacher.

Sincerely,

Your sixth grade ELA team

Ms. Smith – ksmith@paulding.k12.ga.us

Ms. Fisher – sfisher@paulding.k12.ga.us

Ms. Woodall – mwoodall@paulding.k12.ga.us

Ms. Zingaretti – czingaretti@paulding.k12.ga.us

I have read the above letter and understand what the expectations are for the remainder of the year.
I agree to meet those expectations.

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

_____ give my permission for my child _____ to participate in the culminating activity that includes viewing clips from the 1983 film adaptation of *The Outsiders*. I understand they will only be allowed to participate if they have completed all of the assigned tasks and are passing ELA.

_____ I would like my child to opt out of the culminating activity that includes viewing clips from the 1983 film adaptation of *The Outsiders*.

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

I have read the above letter and understand what the expectations are for the remainder of the year.
I agree to meet those expectations.

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

_____ give my permission for my child _____ to participate in the culminating activity that includes viewing clips from the 1983 film adaptation of *The Outsiders*. I understand they will only be allowed to participate if they have completed all of the assigned tasks and are passing ELA.

_____ I would like my child to opt out of the culminating activity that includes viewing clips from the 1983 film adaptation of *The Outsiders*.

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

I have read the above letter and understand what the expectations are for the remainder of the year.
I agree to meet those expectations.

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

_____ give my permission for my child _____ to participate in the culminating activity that includes viewing clips from the 1983 film adaptation of *The Outsiders*. I understand they will only be allowed to participate if they have completed all of the assigned tasks and are passing ELA.

_____ I would like my child to opt out of the culminating activity that includes viewing clips from the 1983 film adaptation of *The Outsiders*.

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ CP 1 2 3 4 Due: Friday April 15, 2016

Outsiders Action Plan – This Action Plan must be with you every day

It's important to have a plan of action in place. After listening in class and reviewing your teacher's website, take the time to plan out which tasks appeal to you the most. Keep in mind other activities that may have an impact on your schedule. Create a supply list of items you may need and what you will need to bring to school on each of the work days. Note that if you are unprepared to work on your tasks your teacher will assign you with topic appropriate tasks to ensure that a learning environment is maintained in class. "I left everything at home" or "I'm doing this at home" will never be an acceptable answer. It is your responsibility to come prepared and ready to work each day in the classroom.

Use a pencil to create a tentative plan below. You are free to change your selected tasks as we go along, but due dates are firm. If you make changes, be sure to update your materials list. Include ideas and a timeline to work on your final task – You should work on this task throughout completing portions of the final task each week.

Directions: For Tasks 1-6 select at least three (3) different categories and no more than three (3) in any one category. The Final Task is open to free choice: EX Jon's action plan is 3 expressive, 1 musical and 2 logical; his final task will be expressive. Create your plan below.

	Graphic	Expressive	Reflective	Logical	Musical	Materials Needed
Task 1 Due April 20						April 15
Task 2 Due April 22						April 20
Task 3 Due April 29						April 27
Task 4 Due May 6						May 4
Task 5 Due May 13						May 10
Task 6 Due May 20						May 17
Final Task Progress Check April 22 May 6 Due May 20						April 21/ May 5, 6, 18