

# HARRIS COUNTY-CARVER MIDDLE SCHOOL

STACEY CARLISLE  
PRINCIPAL  
LINDIE SNYDER  
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL  
CARL DEKKER  
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



184 S. COLLEGE STREET  
HAMILTON, GA 31811  
PHONE 706-628-4951  
FAX 706-628-5737

## 2014-2015 Eighth Grade Language Arts/Reading Pre-AP

This course is designed to help students become better communicators by using language effectively. Since reading comprehension is an essential skill for all students in each content area and in each grade, success in language arts/reading can facilitate success in other subject areas as well. Overall, with sufficient effort your child can become a better reader, writer, and speaker as a result of being in this class.

### Curriculum

The eighth grade curriculum for language arts and reading incorporates and focuses on the English Language Arts Common Core Georgia Performance Standards. The complete listing of Common Core Georgia Performance Standards is available upon request or can be downloaded at <https://www.georgiastandards.org/Common-Core/Pages/ELA-6-8.aspx>. Following are highlights from the major domain areas:

**Literary and Informational Reading Standards. ELACC8RL1-10 and ELACC8RI1-10.** These standards include students determining and analyzing the key ideas, details, craft, and structure of literary and informational texts, evaluating the use of different forms of media, and reading and comprehending texts of appropriate complexity for the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade.  
**Writing Standards. ELACC8W1-10.** These standards include students effectively writing argumentative, explanatory/informational, and narrative texts via the writing process. Students will also use various forms of media and technology to gather and evaluate information in order to complete research projects that demonstrate analysis and reflection. Students will practice writing over short and extended time frames to meet the requirements of discipline-specific tasks.  
**Speaking and Listening Standards. ELACC8SL1-6.** These standards include students preparing for and engaging in a range of collaborative and collegial discussions in which they cite evidence, pose questions, and acknowledge new information, as well as integrate multimedia and visual displays and adapt their speech to a variety of contexts and tasks.  
**Language. ELACC8L1-6.** These standards include students demonstrating a command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing and speaking, acquiring and using new vocabulary, and demonstrating an understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.

**Summer Work:** Students will be expected to read the novel *Touching Spirit Bear* by Ben Mikaelson over the summer and complete the summer coursework. These details were provided to students upon enrollment in the course. The students will be expected to complete the reading of the novel by the first day of school and be able to present their reader's notebook/packet for discussion and grading. These grades will be recorded as Anchor Activity grades. During the beginning weeks of school, the reader's notebook sections will also be used as source material for class discussions as well as additional graded assignments and writing.

One additional outside read will be given each nine weeks, and students will be expected to complete assigned activities for each book. These grades will be recorded as Anchor Activity grades.

### Textbooks and Materials

Prentice Hall's *Literature: Language and Literacy* and McDougall Littell's *Language Network* are the basal texts for this course. If issued to students, these books must be covered. Various novels will also be issued throughout the year. Students must bring a 5 subject composition notebook, paper, blue or black pen and pencils, and a computer flash drive as needed. Students should also be prepared to purchase the novels that are required as outside reads.



Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_