



Mr. Eric Stibbe  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts  
Aldrich Middle School  
2015-2016 School Year



Email: [estibbe@sdb.k12.wi.us](mailto:estibbe@sdb.k12.wi.us)

Phone: (608) 361-3773

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## Welcome to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts!

In this document, you will find all the information necessary for our class and time together. Please read over the syllabus closely and carefully.

### **Class Description.**

This class will journey into the world of challenges. We will be looking at challenges that are present in the world, challenges that present themselves through different genres and forms of communication, and challenges within ourselves. Our work will consist of reading, writing, working together to come to solutions, and speaking/listening.

### **Goals/Objectives.**

Each unit brings its own goals and objectives. The entire year will focus on mastering of four distinct areas in language arts: reading, writing, collaboration, and speaking and listening. Complete mastery is not the desired outcome. What is desired is a mastery of these four areas according to the standards laid out for eighth grade by the Common Core State Standards.

### **Grading.**

Grading will fall into the typical grading scale as listed below. It will be broken down into two parts, formative grades (50%) and summative grades (50%). Formative grades will consist of in-class work and every day assignments. Summative grades will consist of unit tests and Embedded Assessments, of which there are four units and two Embedded Assessments per unit, and Embedded Assessment Reflections. On average, there will be three to five summative grades for each term.

#### **Grading Scale**

90 – 100	A
80 – 89	B
70 – 79	C
60 – 69	D
0 – 59	F

### **Assignments.**

Assignments are to be turned in on time. Late work will be accepted up to 3 weeks from the assigned due date. Any assignment that is turned in after the due date can receive no greater than a 'B'. After 3 weeks have passed since the due date of that assignment, it will no longer be accepted.

**Supplies Needed.**

The following supplies are to be brought and supplied by the student. There is no guarantee that there will be supplies available in the classroom.

- SpringBoard Book
- iPad
- Pen/Pencil (One of each is preferred. Blue/Black ink pen only)
- Highlighter(s)
- Notebook
- Loose Leaf Paper
- Folder

**Behavior/Expectations.**

Student behavior is very important in this class. All students are expected to know and follow the class rules/expectations:

- R – Raise your hand when you wish to speak
- E – Earn respect; don't demand it
- S – Stay in your seat until given permission to leave
- P – Polite language, always
- E – Expect to learn by doing
- C – Complete your work completely and on time
- T – Treat others and yourself with respect

Consequences of not following school and/or classroom procedures/expectations:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: 1-on-1 conference with teacher
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: Phone call home (Student with Teacher)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: Office Referral

**Activities/Embedded Assessments/Texts.**

For a list of Activities, Embedded Assessments, and texts that we will be using this year, please refer to my webpage on the Aldrich Website.

**Independent Reading/Reading Logs**

Throughout the school year students will be expected to read outside of the classroom and keep a log of reading, which would include answer questions about the reading. For each term students will be expected to read at least 2 books and document their reading. At the end of each term reading logs will be collected and assessed as part of the term grade.

*This above all; to thine own self be true*

~William Shakespeare~