

Life Skills English 9 and Math Intervention

2016-2017

With Ms. Oto

Room C110

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Remind App: Text 81010 to 64822.

It will ask you to return your name and then I can add you to the class.

Welcome to ninth grade! Some things will be familiar because they are similar to Middle School. You'll use the same gym and cafeteria. You know how to use a locker and change classes. You know the basic rules of the school building.

Some things have changed too. The dress code is a big change. You will be using hallways and classrooms that may not be familiar to you. Your lockers will be on the third floor, so you will have to learn to budget time a little better. Your classes will be harder and there will be more expected from you. One of the biggest differences is that you are not going to be passed onto another grade anymore. You have to earn each credit that you need to graduate. We will learn more about that later. Don't worry about it though. Just do your best, ask for help when you need it, watch out for each other, and have a great year!

Class Expectations:

Come Prepared

Bring everything you need for class everyday – pencils, notebooks, binders, etc.

Have your homework ready when you come in.

Bring a positive attitude with you!

Be Respectful

We are a lot like a family in this room. You have been together for a while now, and we will spend much of our day together again. Sometimes, we may get irritated being together so much. We must always do our best to be respectful, especially when we are having a rough day. We all lose our cool sometimes though. If you do, take a deep breath, relax, and sincerely apologize. If someone apologizes to you, take a deep breath, relax, and try to accept it.

There are some things I absolutely will not tolerate:

- Name calling and malicious labeling
- using the words “retarded” and “gay” to describe things that you think is stupid, lame, etc.
- bullying
- putting yourself down all the time

When we have discussions, raise your hand to let us know you want to share. Encourage each other to share and participate. Congratulate and celebrate each other's successes and your own. Cheer each other and yourself on when you're struggling.

Struggle!

Let's be honest. You're not in my class because English and Reading are easy subjects for you. So some of the things I ask you to do will be hard, complicated, and frustrating. I know that. I understand it. I don't expect you to succeed all the time. I expect you to try. When you feel the desire to quit or say "I can't" or "I don't know" or "I don't understand" or "I don't get it", that is the moment when you get to choose to grow and be bigger, better, braver, and stronger than you have been before. Those are the little quiet moments that define our character- when we wanna give up but we keep chugging on anyway. That is when we grow and learn. Without struggle there is no learning. You can do it. You just might need more help and practice. That's all ☺ So, dig deep and embrace the struggle.

Cell Phones and Electronic Devices

Follow the student handbook policies.

If you do have a cell phone when you walk into my class, you must choose one of these options: turn it off and put it in your basket at the back of the room , OR

turn it off and place it in the Cell Motel at the front of the room where we can both see it but it is not tempting you while you work.

If you have an ongoing serious or emergency family situation, your parent/guardian can call the office and the call will be forwarded to you if necessary. You have NO NEED for a phone in class.

Grading:

Grades are done by point value.

If an assignment is turned in a day late: -10% from earned grade, 2 days late = -20%. After that, it's a zero.

I will give you rubrics for writing assignments and projects. Otherwise, you are graded on accuracy. Just do your best!

Extra Credit: Every now and then, I will offer an opportunity to earn some extra points. If you earn them, I will add them to an assignment that you completed on time but had trouble with.

Behavioral Issues:

I am a pretty laid back person, and I try to understand why people do what they do and work *with* them. We all have bad days. When a behavior is repeated or disrespect has met its limit for me, I will do the following in response:

1. Verbal warning given in a private conversation with the student. I will explain exactly what I have an issue with and how I would prefer the student choose to behave.
2. Home Contact- I will call and/or email the parent or guardian for the student to discuss the situation and try to find a solution.
3. Meeting with Parent- I will call to meet with the parent and student to work out the situation.
4. Written referral to the Administration- Mr. Venna, Mr. Hockenbroch, Mr. Carnuccio, or Mrs. Glosek

What are we going to be doing this year?

Period 1 English Language Arts

Grammar Review

Text Features and Study Skills Unit

Informational stories and articles with comprehension activities

Reading Comprehension strategies and activities

Writing in Life- lists, invitations, thank you cards, letters, giving and receiving directions, job applications, creative writing, and more!

Interactive Greek and Roman Root Words Notebook

Greek and Latin Root Word-based Vocabulary Units

Read: Short stories, poetry, and non-fiction articles.

Period 8 ELA and Math Intervention

Read Naturally and Star Reader (online)

Math games and activities to practice basic computation concepts

Cognitive Development- Metacognition and Growth Mindset Unit, learn to play chess and other games, and more!

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OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday September 21st

At 6:00pm

Hope to see you there!

Pep Rally and Homecoming

October 7th

Picture Day!

October 14th

Parent-Teacher Conferences

November 14th

You can sign up at the Open House or let me know that you want a meeting!

New this year!!!

School Store

Open from 7:25-7:45 and 2:35 – 2:50 pm

T-shirts sold there will be allowed to be worn for Spirit Days, when Mr. Venna announces them ☺