

Course Expectations

Mrs. Teemant

Seventh Grade Accelerated Reading

I. COURSE SCOPE AND GOALS:

This one year required course reinforces the development of strategic reading behaviors at an accelerated level. This course emphasizes an interactive approach in which students construct meaning from text. The course focus is on students utilizing vocabulary, thought processes, and strategies to become independent readers and learners.

Course Goals:

1. To utilize the reading process as a foundation for learning.
2. To know and use word analysis skills and strategies to strengthen vocabulary and increase comprehension.
3. To read to understand, interpret, and analyze literature (fiction).
4. To read to understand, interpret, and analyze informational text (nonfiction).
5. To practice strategic study/learning behaviors.
6. To apply effective information acquisition and research strategies.
7. To provide appropriate instruction for students who demonstrate weaknesses or discrepancies in reading.
8. To develop independent learners who read for information as well as enjoyment.
9. To build respect and tolerance for the ideas of diversity by reading a wide variety of multicultural literature.
10. To develop the love of reading as a lifetime skill.

II. PRE REQUISITES

Students will be working at an accelerated level which requires higher level thinking skills based on Bloom's Taxonomy and Gardner's Multiple Intelligences.

III. PRE-ASSESSMENTS

Each student will a silent reading comprehension assessment, and a syllabus based pretest during the first several weeks of classes to determine areas requiring improvement and strengths in alignment with the Clark County School District Reading 7 Course Syllabus.

IV. POST-ASSESSMENTS

Students will take a syllabus based post-assessment, a silent reading comprehension assessment and the Degree of Reading Power Test (D.R.P.) to determine individual growth in course content, accomplishment of individual growth with regard to performance objectives, and strengths and weaknesses of the teaching-learning process. Students will take a semester assessment in order to measure progress for objectives covered during each quarter in alignment with Nevada state standards.

V. COURSE ACTIVITIES

A. Testing

The teacher will administer tests and quizzes throughout the course of study to determine the individual student's development as well as the effectiveness of the teaching strategies/methodologies. A semester exam will be given at the end of each semester. The semester exam will count for no more than 10% of the final semester grade.

B. Assignments

Assignments will be given throughout the week in accordance with the Bob Miller Middle School's homework policy. English, reading, earth science and math will assign a minimum of 20 minutes of homework Monday-Thursday. All assignments are due on time. Students are expected to work in class on assignments when time is

allowed. Papers must be neat and legible. Papers without names will be discarded at the end of the quarter. Every student is expected to do his/her own work. Any students sharing work will receive a zero, unless it is a cooperative learning assignment and their effort is evident.

C. Make-up Work (CCSD REG.5113):

After any absence, a secondary **student** is required to **initiate** contact with the teacher(s) to obtain appropriate make up work within three (3) school days immediately following the absence. Once contact has been made with the teacher(s), specific make up work must be completed and returned to the teacher(s) within a reasonable length of time, to be determined by the teacher and communicated to the student/parent or legal guardian. The make-up work must be returned to the teacher(s) by the specified due date if it is to be acknowledged. Students shall be allowed a minimum of three (3) days to complete make up work. Explanations and/or help are available at the teacher's scheduled availability times, NOT during the class period. Students who are absent, **must** have all make-up work in by the 5th day after returning.

D. Extra Credit:

Extra credit **may** be built into some assignments. Extra credit **may** be offered periodically but is not guaranteed. Students who have a low grade due to missing assignments and late work, do not qualify for extra credit to simply pull up their grade.

E. Homework Policy

Homework will be assigned Monday through Thursday. It is expected that students turn in all homework **on time** and **complete**. Students will be deducted for late, inaccurate, illegible, and incomplete homework.

F. Late Work

Late work is reduced to 75% for one day late, 50% the second day it is late, and 0% thereafter. However, late assignments need to be completed for the review of information and acquisition of knowledge for future assignments or assessments. The late policy calculation starts on the day the assignment is given.

G. Homework Re-do Policy

The purpose of homework is to reinforce and practice the skills taught in class. If students score below 80%, they have the opportunity to re-do the assignment within a reasonable amount of time. Homework must have been completed and turned in in order to "re-do". If homework is not turned in, then it is subject to the MMS late work policy.

H. Long-Term Assignments

Long-term assignments are designed to enhance learning and help students become organized, accountable, and increase time management skills. Students are expected to complete all long-term assignments according to the time frame the teacher has designed and are responsible for turning each portion in **on time with no exceptions!** Students who are absent on the day a long-term assignment is due, must turn that assignment in **the day** they return to school.

I. Academic Dishonesty

If students are found guilty of academic dishonesty (cheating), the teacher will collect the assignment, mark a zero for the work and notify the parent of the consequences. This includes work copied from a student or given to another student to copy. A second offense of cheating or continued academic dishonesty may result in a notice of required parent conference at which time future consequences will be discussed. Academic dishonesty will also result in an automatic N or U in citizenship.

J. Across the Curriculum Activities:

1. *Writing Process*--Students will put into practice writing techniques, which they have developed in their English classes. The teacher will include writing assignments and essay questions on exams. Students are expected to respond both orally and in writing using standard grammar and complete sentences.
2. *Technology*-- Students will be required to complete computer generated assignments when appropriate.
3. *Learning/Reading Strategies*--Two-column notes, vocabulary note cards, and other strategies will be used extensively.
4. *Problem-solving Strategies*-- Strategies will be employed by students as presented by the teacher.
5. *Organization Skills*--Students will be required to keep an organized notebook.

VI. EVALUATION

A. Student grades will be earned through:

1. Semester Exams and Test: One exam per semester will constitute 10% of the grade. Final exam is on overall computation of each portion of the test. Each quarter will constitute 45% of the overall grade respectively.
2. Classroom assignments will constitute 30% of the grade.
3. Long-term assignments and research will constitute 30% of the grade.
4. Homework assignments will constitute 20% of the grade.
5. Classroom tests and quizzes will constitute 20% of the grade.
6. Participation is a daily concern in the educational process. Absenteeism will have a negative impact on the student's grade. Those who are absent are responsible to make-up all work **within 5 days** of their return to school. No work will be accepted after that date.
7. Extra Credit **may** be offered throughout the school year, but not exclusively to bring up a grade.

B. Letter grades represent the following:

A= 100% - 90%	Excellent
B= 89% - 80%	Above average
C= 79% - 70%	Average
D= 69% - 60%	Below average
F= Below- 59%	Failing

C. Students will be required to provide feedback on grade and academic progress to their parents on a bi-weekly basis. They will do this in by printing up a grade print out from Parentlink and having it signed each week by their parent or guardian. This will be due every other Friday. **No late print outs will be accepted.** This is an ongoing assignment and every student needs to be responsible and remember to turn it in on the assigned Friday.

D. Grades can be accessed through the internet by connecting to Parentlink on the Bob Miller Middle School homepage (www.ccsd.net/schools/miller). Grades will be updated twice a week and the students need to print them out and turn them in signed to receive their points.

VII. BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

Citizenship Grades - Citizenship grades will be based on a student's ability to follow the classroom procedures and effectively turn their assignments in. The students are expected to:

- * come to class prepared and ready to learn.
- * show respect to others and the learning environment.
- * follow instructions and be on task at all times.
- * have homework and assignments ready to turn in on time!
- * take responsibility for your actions!
- * **READ!**

Infractions of these expectations may result in the lowering of a student's citizenship grade.

O (Outstanding) The student is always prepared for class, actively participates in class activities and is a positive influence on other students. Students who have 0-4 missing assignments.

S (Satisfactory) The student is generally prepared for class, frequently participates in class activities and does not infringe on the rights of others. Students who have 5-7 missing assignments.

N (Needs Improvement) The student is often unprepared for class, exhibits behavior that regularly interferes with other students' learning, and does not follow classroom rules.

Students who have 8-10 missing assignments.

U (Unsatisfactory) The student is frequently unprepared for class, fails to participate in class activities, exhibits behavior that interferes with other students' learning, and does not follow school and/or classroom rules. Students who have more than 10 missing assignments

Progressive Discipline Policy - If rules are violated, the following steps will occur:

- * Conference with student and verbal warning

- * Parent Contact

- * Counselors referral

- * Deans referral

- *Major infractions can result in an immediate dean referral. These infractions can result in an automatic unsatisfactory mark in citizenship.

VIII. GENERAL INFORMATION

- * Tardies - Students who are more than 1/2 hour tardy will be marked absent. The school tardy policy will be enforced for all students that are tardy to class. All students need to be in class on time ready to begin. Students are considered tardy when both feet are not in the classroom when the bell rings. If students are purposely loitering in the halls and come in while the bell is ringing, they will be counted as tardy.

- * Restroom - Students should use their time between classes to go to the restroom.

- * Students are expected to respect the school property and other students' personal property.

IX. SUPPLIES

(1) composition book

(2) dividers with tabs labeled; Weekly Grades/Progress, Classwork/Handouts

different colored highlighters (2-3)

red, black, and blue ink pens (red is for correcting) (**no gel pens**)

white out tape (no liquid white out)

pencils

binder

loose leaf paper

colored pencils

glue stick

scissors

ruler

chocolate for the teacher :)

optional:

Each period will be assigned an item that is \$1.00 or less to donate if they are able.

*Optional Donations

P1: Crayola Markers

P2: Box of Kleenex

P3: Box of Kleenex

P4: Colored Pencils

P5: Glue Sticks

X. CONTACT INFORMATION

A. It is recommended that you contact the teacher through email. To reach me through the internet, go to <http://www.CCSD.net/schools/miller/> and access the specific teacher website information. My school email address is MJT269@interact.ccsd.net. This is the best way to communicate and get a quick response. In order to reach me via the phone, call Bob Miller Middle School at 799-2260 and your call will be returned within a 24 hour period. I am available from 7:30 a.m.-2:45p.m. If you need to schedule a conference concerning grades or behavior, please call the counselor's secretary to arrange that.

B. Classroom Website - mrsteemant.yolasite.com is the most important communication device I will use throughout the year to keep in constant contact with both students and parents. This website will always include homework that is due, vocabulary, extra credit, tips, and a way for me to let everyone know exactly what is going on at any given moment. Please take a moment and mark this site on your favorites so that everyone can stay informed.

REMEMBER... mrsteemant.yolasite.com

XI. SIGN - OFF FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

AFTER READING THE COURSE EXPECTATIONS, PLEASE FILL OUT AND SIGN THE ATTACHED SHEET. THIS VERIFIES THE FACT THAT YOU HAVE READ THE COURSE EXPECTATIONS. THIS SHEET ALSO GIVES ME THE INFORMATION THAT WOULD BE NECESSARY SHOULD I NEED TO CONTACT THE PARENT(S) DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR.

****PLEASE KEEP THE COURSE EXPECTANCY SHEET AS A REFERENCE.**

PRINT THIS PAGE ONLY AND BRING IT IN BY 9/9/10

Student Name (First and last) _____ Period _____

I have read the course expectations for Mrs. Teemant's **Accelerated Reading** class.

#1 Parent name (please print) Home phone Best time to contact

Parent signature Work phone Best time to contact

Complete address (please print)

#2 Parent name (please print) Home phone Best time to contact

Parent signature Work phone Best time to contact

Complete address (**please print neatly**)

Best email addresses of parent or guardian (**please print neatly**)

Student's email address (**please print neatly**)

Student Signature Date Signed

I have thoroughly read and understand the academic dishonesty and homework / make-up work policies for Mrs. Teemant's Accelerated Reading class.

Student Signature Date Signed