**Eighth Grade Language Arts Syllabus**

**Teacher:**  Ms. Marlene De Pau

**Room:** 103

**Conference Time:** ????????

**Email**: mdepau@tmisd.us

**A.  Language Arts Supplies**

* 5 manila folders
* Highlighters
* Pencils/blue or black ink pen ( no pink, purple, turquoise, etc.)
* red or green pen for grading
* 1 pocket folders with brackets
* 3 subject spiral notebook to be used for a warm-up spiral/ Sections will be dedicated to (1) Vocabulary (2) Analogies/D.O.L. (Daily Oral Language) and (3) Notes/Miscellaneous

**B.  Course Description**

Students in this course will practice a full range of reading and writing skills that challenge the student to demonstrate basic techniques of word identification, fact and detail, and summarization. In addition, a flexible range of metacognitive reading skills will be incorporated by students in order to become self-directed, critical readers. Students will furthermore perform higher-level thought processes of inference, generalization, and identification of the author's purpose.

At the same time students will integrate growing knowledge of writing skills in persuasive, classificatory, problem-solving, and analytical formats while adhering to standards of spelling, capitalization, punctuation, English usage, and sentence structure. Students are expected to develop and utilize an extensive and precise vocabulary.

To demonstrate mastery of these skills outlined in the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) document, students will read materials and make connections between varieties of literary genre including, but not limited to whole texts or excerpts of: short stories, poetry, expository text, novels, advertisement, and plays.

Group work comprises one aspect of this course, and students are expected to demonstrate good work ethics while working cooperatively with his/her group. It is an important life skill to develop a collaborative team spirit and be a responsible contributor to the team. Group work will comprise both an individual as well as a team assessment.

**C. Student Expectations**

Students are expected to do their own work. On a regular basis, teachers will provide students with feedback regarding performance on minor and major grade assignments and overall course average as determined by district grading policy. Students will be expected to use this information to keep their parents informed and make wise decisions to attend morning or afternoon tutorials offered by the teacher. Teachers will hold students accountable for keeping track of assignments, completing the assignments, and submitting the assignments on time. Late work is **unacceptable**.

Students will adhere to the Student Code of Conduct.

**D. Homework**

Students are expected to read a ***minimum*** of 30 minutes each night. Reading is a skill, and the only way to improve a skill is to practice that skill. Just as athletes and musicians must practice to improve, so students must practice reading in order to improve their reading.

Other homework may be assigned to provide practice for skills and concepts taught in class. Homework is expected to be quality work and turned in on time. Late work is not acceptable.

**E. Grading Procedures**

Grading will be according to the English Department Grading Policy.

**Discipline plan for Room 103**

**Expectations:**

1. Be on time which means to be seated and be ready to work when the bell rings.
2. Be prepared which means having the proper supplies for daily class work.
3. Be respectful of others, including their property and their ideas. Treat others the way you want to be treated.
4. Follow the TMMS Student Code of conduct
5. Remember the 3 R’s: *Rules, Respect, and Responsibility.*

**Consequences:**

1. Verbal Warning (Life Savers)
2. Student-Teacher Conference
3. Call Parent
4. Detention
5. Written referral and student is sent to the office.

\*\*\*Severe disruptions: Student will be sent immediately to the office.\*\*\*

**Rewards:**

Good class participation, no negative behavior marks on the discipline list, one tardy or less in a six week period, one absence or less in a three week period, 100% class work and homework completed, a 75 or above grade average, no detention halls, will result in one or more of the following:

* Praise
* Positive notes/phone call home
* A consequence erased
* Special privileges such as late work pass, bathroom pass.

**Student:** I have read this classroom discipline plan and understand it. I will honor it while in room 103.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parents:** My child has discussed the classroom discipline plan with me. I understand it and will support it.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Parent phone # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Parent phone # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Teacher:** I will be fair and consistent in administering the discipline plan for room 103.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_