**8th Grade ELA**

Charlotte Secondary School

Mrs. Meghan (Reino) Miller

Room: 1903

Website: [www.mrsreinomiller.weebly.com](http://www.mrsreinomiller.weebly.com) or google Mrs. Reino Miller

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This course introduces and engages students in the 8th grade North Carolina standards for literacy. Students will read and analyze various genres of literature, practice using and identifying literary devices, and learn/apply testing skills in order to improve in their academics across courses. Students will also acquire knowledge about how appropriately use of citations. In addition, they will dive into how to gather appropriate academic and factual sources for formal writing. Each of these skills will work to better prepare students for the 8th grade ELA EOC at the end of the year, and various real world scenarios.

**Course Plan and Objectives**

1. Students will learn techniques and skills to help them improve academic abilities across courses and grade levels.
2. Students will investigate and discuss the role of various literary elements in both short and long text pieces.
3. Students will familiarize themselves with a variety of text genres.
4. Students will learn to avoid and identify plagiarism in writing.
5. Students will be capable of finding factual and appropriate sources when researching topics.

**Classroom Expectations**

* **Come prepared!** I hold my students to very high standards. I expect them to do their very best at all times so that I can help prepare them for successful futures. Therefore, students are expected to come to class **on time**, **prepared** with materials for class, in possession of a book to read, and with their **reading/homework/projects or other assignments completed**.
* **Late assignments**will only be accepted after a specified time and can result in significant point loss in addition to the grade they would have originally received. Accountability and deadlines are a very important part of being successful in life.
* Students will be responsible for completing their homework assignments when assigned as they may play a key role during in class assignments. As a result, incomplete homework can result in lower in class assignments grades.
* If a student is absent for any reason **it is their responsibility** to make up what they missed in a timely manner. I will not be hunting you down you need to come see me for your assignments or they will be marked as an F. Absences don't excuse students from work, so they are expected to return to school ready to jump back in. Students can come see me during lunch time if they need to retrieve missed work, and should check Google Classroom and my website while they are out.
* **When they enter the room** students should **immediately put up their cell phones** and then be **at their desks** with their **materials out** and following the directions for the **warm-up**. Daily warm-ups contribute to the student’s grade.
* During class students are expected to **be respectful** of **both myself and one another**. That includes creating disruptions that hinder other students’ learning during class. Any disrespect will not be tolerated.
* If you have something positive to contribute to a class discussion please raise your hand and silently wait until the instructor calls on you so that your peers have a chance to finish their contribution.
* **No food or drink** of any kind is permitted in class unless during designated lunch periods. Keep all food off the desks and in your bag on the floor please. This includes gum!
* Students are not to have electronics during school hours per CSS guidelines. Electronics may only be used at dismissal after the child has left the building. That means no iPod, mp3 players, game devices, pagers, cameras, or cell phones. **Any electronics used or visible during the school day will be confiscated** and turned over to administration. Please be aware that if an electronic is confiscated at Charlotte Secondary **staff are not financially responsible for any loss or damage to that item**.
* Students who have signed the school’s laptop agreement will be given a computer to use during classes. This computer must not leave the school building, and it comes with usage guidelines students must adhere to. Please see the agreement for specific details on this matter.
* Students are **not to get out of their seats without permission** unless it is for an emergency. If students need to sharpen their pencils during class they are to **silently**hold up their hand grasping their pencil and I will point to them when it is an appropriate time for them to do so. Please make sure the tip is in your hand and you are not waving it around to prevent accidents.
* Students need to use the **restroom before or after class**, as they have plenty of time during transitions. However, if students need to use the rest room during class it must be an emergency and they are to **silently**hold up their hand during independent work time. Student will only be permitted to use the bathroom in class 1-2 times a semester after that point the answer will be no. Therefore, students should reserve their requests for emergencies only. You will **NOT** be permitted to go if you yell out and disrupt class. No one is permitted to use the restroom during the first/last 15 minutes of the block.
*\*\*\*\*\*\*Student who chose to use the restroom during class will not be permitted to go during any lecture or teacher driven instruction as it disrupts the flow of the class. Also, we try to minimize the amount of movement in the halls during instructional time as this helps prevent incidents from occurring.  It is advised to use the bathroom during group or individual instruction only if absolutely necessary.*

* Any time you exit the room please take the pass and be sure to fill out the sign out book and include your name, the location, date, and time in as well as out.

**Cell Phone Policy**

* No cell phones or electronic devices are permitted until dismissal, unless expressly specified by the teacher. Please have them turned off and stowed in your backpack at all times. Failure to follow directions will result in confiscation of the device, a phone call home, and consequences determined by administration. ​

**Parent/Student Grade Updates:**

* As a parent I highly suggest you and your child check my website and Google Classroom for upcoming or past due dates/assignments. Additionally, please check your child's grade via Powerschool on a regular basis. Failure to do so could result in lower grades or potentially failure of the course. I enter grades regularly so the grade a student receives should never be a surprise to them or their parent. However, if your child fails for the quarter you will receive an email communication once final grades have been submitted prior to report card release.

**8th Grade ELA**

**Charlotte Secondary Middle School**

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* ***I read and understand the CSS and instructor’s policy regarding classroom and student expectations.***
* ***I also visited the teacher’s website listed above to locate updates and information about my child’s civics class.***
* ***I am aware that this website contains assignments, study guides, important websites, and due dates for my child.***

**Student Name PRINTED:**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Student Name SIGNED:**

**Parent Name PRINTED:**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent Name: SIGNED:**

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***Parent Contact Information***

**Parent Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\*RETURN OR YOU MAY COMPLETE THE ONLINE VERSION ON MY WEBSITE HOMEPAGE FOR FIRST GRADE**