



## STOUT MIDDLE SCHOOL SIXTH GRADE ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS



**Teacher:** Mr. Melvin

**Contact Information:**

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Classroom: D – 4

Blog Site: [www.iblog.dearbornschools.org/melvinj](http://www.iblog.dearbornschools.org/melvinj)

Please understand that phone calls and emails may not be answered immediately, due to teaching multiple classes. Please allow 24 hours for a reply. I am free to meet before or after school, by appointment only.

**Course Description:** Students will learn to become stronger readers, writers, speakers, and listeners this year. We will read different genres and practice writing in those genres. We will study how great authors write and incorporate their skills into our own. Students must be open to creating new ideas and respectful of others' ideas.

We will use the "Daily 5" framework to give students freedom and responsibility to work on assignments of their own choice each week. This will be used along with whole class instruction on reading for comprehension, accuracy, fluency, and to expand vocabulary. Students will be assigned homework daily, even if it is only to read for 20 minutes. Please check the blog to stay up to date on assignments.

**Classroom Rules and Expectations:**

1. Be in your seat, with your materials, ready to start when it is time for class, or you will be marked tardy.
2. Bring your planner, pencils/pens, chosen reading book, binder, and any homework.
3. Listen carefully and follow directions the first time they are given.
4. Raise your hand and wait to be called on before speaking.
5. Respect others. Be kind with your words and actions.
6. Respect things that belong to your school, your classmates, and your teachers.

Failure to comply with the classroom expectations will result in:

- Student being sent to Responsibility Room to reflect on how behavior affects others.
- Parent notification (via phone or email).
- After School Detention (if missed for any reason, will become 2 detentions).
- Restorative Hours spent working in Mr. Melvin's class or around the building.
- Extreme cases will result in a behavioral referral being sent to the Assistant Principal, and a conference may be scheduled with parent, teacher(s), and student.

**Planner:** Planners need to be with students at all times. You will be given one planner for free at the beginning of the school year. If you lose your planner, you **must purchase another one in the office for \$5.00**. Students will be responsible for recording class activities and homework at the end of class each day. Also, if you need to leave the room to go to your locker, the office, or the bathroom, you must have your planner to do so. **No Planner = No Pass**. Each student gets 5 passes per marking period.

**Homework:** Homework will be posted on the blog. Homework is to be turned in the following day, unless otherwise directed. Homework must be completed neatly and thoroughly by the *beginning* of class to receive full credit. Poor quality is not accepted under any circumstances. Late work will be subject to a 20% penalty. Work without a student's name/correct heading will be subject to a 10% penalty.

**Absences:** When students are absent, they are responsible for checking the calendar/blog, getting their assignments from the green "Extra Copies" folder, and turning them in. If a student is absent on the day an assignment is due, he or she should plan to turn it in the day he or she returns to school. If you know you will be absent in advance, please let Mr. Melvin know and he can get assignments ready so no work is missed.

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Parent Signature

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What is the best way to contact you?  
Please write an email address and phone number.

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Date






**Projects:** Students will be expected to complete projects and essays independently, as well as in groups. Students will be given some class time to work on projects, but please plan to work on them at home as well. Turning in the same writing or exact same project as another student will be considered **plagiarism**, and will result in a zero for the assignment, as well as having to redo the assignment.

**Grading Procedures:** Students' grades are based on points earned on tasks completed in and out of class. The points are added together for the final marking period grade. Assignments like in-class work, homework, rough drafts, and grammar practice are considered **formative** (they help form knowledge) and count for 20% of students' overall grades. Quizzes, tests, projects, and essays are considered **summative** and count for 80% of students' overall grades. **This is a policy across Stout Middle School.** Students will take notes every two weeks, and will be tested on the information in those notes every other Friday. Plan to study for tests, as mastery of these skills is expected. If students are absent on the day of a test or quiz, they are to make it up the day they return to school. Quizzes may be unannounced.

**Grading Scale:**

- A+ 100%
- A 93-99.9%
- A- 90-92.9%
- B+ 87-89.9%
- B 83-86.9%
- B- 80-82.9%
- C+ 77-79.9%
- C 73-76.9%
- C- 70-72.9%
- D+ 67-69.9%
- D 63-66.9%
- D- 60-62.9%
- E 59.9% or below

**SUGGESTED SUPPLIES FOR MR. MELVIN'S ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS CLASS:**

- \_\_\_ One three-ring binder (1 inch or wider) 
- \_\_\_ Three packs of loose leaf paper (wide ruled preferred) 
- \_\_\_ One pack of dividers for binder (at least 5 in pack) 
- \_\_\_ Two boxes of tissues 
- \_\_\_ 20 or more Pencils (#2 preferred) 

Most items can be found at local dollar stores, Meijer, Target, Walmart, or office supply stores.

Dearborn Public Schools accept a parent's assertion that he or she needs language assistance without requiring additional corroboration. **For free help with understanding the content of this document, please call the Student Services office 827-3005 for translation/interpretation assistance.**

**Arabic:** 827-3005 توكذ مدارس ديربورن على توفير خدمات الترجمة بدون أي شرط للحصول على هذه الخدمة المجانية ولفهم هذه الإستمارة يرجى الإتصال بمكتب خدمات الطلاب على الرقم 827-3005

**French:** Les écoles de Dearborn vous offrent le service de traduction sans aucune condition. Si vous souhaitez avoir le service gratuit pour comprendre le contenu de ce document, prière d'appeler le bureau de Services aux Etudiants 827-3005.

**Spanish:** Las escuelas de Dearborn aceptan la afirmación de un padre que él o ella necesita ayuda con el idioma sin necesidad de corroboración adicional. Para obtener ayuda gratuita con la comprensión del contenido de este documento, por favor llame a la oficina de Servicios de los Estudiantes 827-3005 para recibir asistencia de traducción / interpretación.

**Italian:** Scuole Dearborn accettare l'affermazione di un genitore che lui o lei ha bisogno di assistenza lingua senza bisogno di ulteriori conferme. Per aiuto con la comprensione del contenuto di questo documento, si prega di chiamare l'ufficio Student Services 827-3005 per la traduzione / interpretazione di assistenza.

**Albanian:** Shkolla DEARBORN pranohjnë pohimin e të prindërve që ai ose ajo ka nevojë për ndihmë të gjuhës pa kërkuar vërtetim shtesë. Për ndihmë lirë me kuptuar përmbajtjen e këtij dokumenti, ju lutemi telefononi zyrën e shërbimeve për studentë 827-3005 për përkthim / interpretim ndihmë.

**Romanian:** Scolile orasului Dearborn accepta orice declaratie parinteasca care atesta nevoia copilul de asistenta cu limba engleza fara nici o dovada suplimentara. Daca aveti nevoie sa intelegeti acest document da-ti telefon la oficiul serviciilor scolare la numarul 827-3005 pentru a primi asistenta cu translatia sau interpretarea lui.

**Urdu:** ڈیئر بورن اسکولوں میں والدین کا دعویٰ ہے کہ وہ یا وہ انسانی تعاون کی ضرورت پڑتی ہے بغیر زبان امداد کی ضرورت ہے کو قبول کرتے ہیں۔ اس دستاویز کے مواد کو سمجھنے کے ساتھ مفت 827-3005 میں مدد کے لئے، براہ مہربانی مدد ترجمہ / تشریح کے لئے طالب علم کی خدمات کے دفتر کو کال کریں۔

One thing Mr. Melvin should know that will help my student be successful is...

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Parents and Guardians, please sign here, indicating that you have read and understand the syllabus. If you have any questions, please email me! --Mr. Josh Melvin (melvinj@dearbornschools.org)

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Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ What is the best way to contact you? \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Please write an email address and phone number.