

## **WELCOME TO LANGUAGE ART!**

### **Grade 7 Syllabus**

Ms. Beydoun

2018-2019

*This class values thinking. The more you think, talk, and write about your thinking, the better your grade will be. There may be wrong answers, but there are NEVER wrong ideas.*

**Course Description:** Seventh Grade English Language Arts fosters critical thinking through the study of reading literature, writing, listening, collaboration, and presentation skills. Students will utilize vocabulary and reading strategies to evaluate fiction and nonfiction texts. They will write for a variety of audiences and purposes and their writing will serve as an anchor for lessons in language and grammar use. Students will demonstrate appropriate presentation skills, as well as listen to, view, analyze and evaluate information using various best practices.

### **Requirements and Expectations:**

#### **I. Needed materials**

- A. Binder 1" or 2" (set up second week of school): There will be regular binder checks in my class for a grade
- B. TAB Dividers- Three
- C. Binder Pouch
- D. Sharpened Pencils, Sharpener, Erasers
- E. Highlighters
- F. Washable Markers, colored pencils (Creative projects that are required to be colored are assigned often in this course)
- G. **At least** two packs of loose-leaf lined paper
- H. Composition Book (will be creating an interactive journal second semester)
- I. Note-cards, reinforcement labels (Recommended)
- J. Writing utensils- **MUST HAVE** blue/black and red ink pens
- K. Post-its, glue sticks, scissors, rulers, sharpeners, hole punchers, and personal staplers are used often in my class. Project supplies are great to have at home to complete in class assignments that might end up as homework.
- L. Reader's Workshop/Independent Reading book (class or school library): Students must **ALWAYS** have a book/educational magazine of personal preference available to read.

#### **II. Work to expect**

- A. We will use various types of literature to analyze across genres, literary texts and informational texts. We will also read independently, books of your own choice, in class and for homework daily.
- B. We will cover as much literature relevant to issues in our society as possible.
- C. We will have rich discussions whose aim is to foster thinking and writing and build a strong and cohesive class community.
- D. We will write compositions OFTEN! Some will be writing contests; others will be essays and journal entries.
- E. We will practice grammar and punctuation through daily SLOT routines
- F. We will do word studies as we read and write.
- G. We will interpret and write poetry.

**H. We will watch movies which relate to course materials (some of which are PG-13). Please pay attention to the check-box below if your child cannot watch course-related PG-13 movies.**

G. We will amend this syllabus and any other assignments on an “as needed” basis to foster growth in areas most needed.

**III. Late, incomplete or incorrect assignments and Exam Retakes:**

Part of your grade will be based on following directions and completing assignments on time. You will lose points if you do not comply. Absences will require makeup work to be done in a timely fashion. It is your responsibility to ask me **alongside using Google classroom and email me** for missing work when absent. You have one day to turn in an assignment after an unexcused absence. Our school handbook addresses rules on absences. As for unexcused late submissions of formative assignments, you will lose 1 point for each day it is late. **After 4 days late, your assignment will be worth half-credit.**

**\*Exam make-ups if absent are only offered within 1 week from the original testing date. You are responsible for letting me know you need to retake a test or quiz within this one week span.**

**IV. Plagiarism and cheating**

- A. Copying of any sort—from another student’s work, from the internet, or from literature—will result in a zero. An alternative assignment will be done for a grade no higher than 70%. (Copying of this sort is often called plagiarism.)
- B. Cheating on a test will result in a zero.
- C. There will also be an office referral for the above infractions.

**VI. Discipline Plan/Reward System**

PBIS stands for Positive Behavior Intervention Support. It is a program designed to teach respect, responsibility, and safety at our school. The PBIS Matrix is a guide to help us remember what consequences we will receive for faulty behavior. PBIS also offers celebration for our positive behavior choices. One of which includes the opportunity to earn Dojo points using ClassDojo. See attached sheet for more on this.

**VII. Assessments:** Students will receive both formative and summative assessments.

- ❖ *Formative assessment* is the ongoing assessment of each student aimed at providing information to guide teaching and improve student performance. Therefore, students will be consistently assessed either orally or in writing to ascertain whether learning and progress are taking place.
- ❖ *Summative Assessment* is the collective assessment for a unit of study. It is designed to provide a grade indicating whether a student has made progress and learned sufficient information to move on to the next level of performance.

Summative Assessments (Tests, Projects, some quizzes, final compositions, etc...) will account for 70% of a student’s grade, while formative assessments (daily work, homework, drafts, participation) will average close to 30%.

**Grading Scale:**

<b>94-100%</b> <b>(A)</b>	<b>90-93%</b> <b>(A-)</b>	<b>88-89%</b> <b>(B+)</b>	<b>84-87%</b> <b>(B)</b>	<b>80-83%</b> <b>(B-)</b>	<b>78-79%</b> <b>(C+)</b>
<b>74-77%</b> <b>(C)</b>	<b>70-73%</b> <b>(C-)</b>	<b>68-69%</b> <b>(D+)</b>	<b>64-67%</b> <b>(D)</b>	<b>60-63%</b> <b>(D-)</b>	<b>59 and Below (E)</b>

Please contact me with any questions by:

- ❖ Email: [beydouw1@dearbornschools.org](mailto:beydouw1@dearbornschools.org)
- ❖ Phone: 313-827-2800 ext 24715

Note: iblog is a great place for receiving information about the classroom and important due dates/announcement. However, contacting me via iblog is not reliable. Please use email, phone, or classroom Dojo to contact me for fastest response.

Please sign and return the last page to show you have gone over this information with your parents/guardian. If you have questions or concerns now or during the course of the year, please email me.

Thank you for your support. I'm looking forward to a great year!

Sincerely,

Ms. Beydoun  
Language Arts Teacher  
O.L. Smith Middle School  
[beydouw1@dearbornschools.org](mailto:beydouw1@dearbornschools.org)  
iblog link: <http://iblog.dearbornschools.org/msbeydoun2018>

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** توك مدارس ديربورن على توفير خدمات الترجمة بدون أي شرط للحصول على هذه الخدمة المجانية ولغهم هذه الإستشارة 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 pranojnë 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 këtyj 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 اضافی تعاون کی ضرورت ہوتی ہے بغیر زبان امداد کی ضرورت ہے کو قبول کرتے ہیں۔ اس دستاویز کے مواد کو سمجھنے کے ساتھ مفت میں مدد کے لئے، براہ مہربانی مدد ترجمہ / تشریح کے لئے طالب علم کی خدمات کے دفتر کو کال کریں 827-3005.

## Classroom Dojo in Ms. Beydoun's Room

Welcome to Ms. Beydoun's 7th Grade ELA Class. In Ms. Beydoun's classroom, positive behavior is important for achieving success. A positive classroom environment allows **EVERYONE** to learn and grow from one another in a supportive way. It is our job to work together at creating an environment where everyone feels included, supported, and excited to learn. Classroom Dojo is a way for Ms. Beydoun to hold students accountable for their positive and negative behaviors.

### Individual Reward

At the end of **every 2 weeks** in Ms. Beydoun's class, people with the top 10 most points will have an opportunity to pick a treat from Ms. Beydoun's treat Basket. Treat options will include school supplies, homework passes (once per card-marking), candy, and raffle tickets. Raffle Tickets are an interesting choice because they give students an opportunity to enter a classroom draw for a bigger prize at the end of the card-marking (4 draws the entire school year). Only **ONE** student per hour wins this prize. The prize is a choice of **ONE** of the following:

- A 5 dollar gift card to 7/11, Taco Bell, Starbucks, or Tim Hortons (Open to suggestions)

### Classroom Reward

Working positively as a team is just as important as working positively on your own. It is important to recognize classrooms who work together to achieve their goal. Ms. Beydoun rewards **ONE ENTIRE class** with a sweet treat at the end of every card-marking by using her classroom dojo report to decide which class worked together the best to help one another whenever and wherever possible. Remember, something as simple as coming to class on time can positively affect the entire class's percentage on classroom Dojo. Some ways to earn points as a collective group are to be helpful to one another during team assignments, hold a growth mindset when tasks appear difficult, and most importantly, demonstrate respect to guest teachers when Ms. Beydoun is not in the room.

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Ms. Beydoun's Syllabus Agreement:

I have received and read Ms. Beydoun's syllabus for English Language Arts, Grade 7. I also give permission to Ms. Beydoun, allowing my child to view course related PG-13 movies.

Student's Name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell/Work#: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle the best way to reach parent/guardian:

**Phone            Email**

Please circle yes or no to give me permission to take class photos that your child may appear in. Classroom pictures may appear on district websites and/or classroom dojo's classroom story. This is a fun way to create classroom community and to include parents in on many of the exciting activities we will be partaking in this school year:

**YES            NO**

**SIGN CELL PHONE POLICY AGREEMENT ON BACK OF THIS PAGE PLEASE!!!!**

## **O.L. Smith Cell Phone, Electronic Accessories, and Devices Policy**

O.L. Smith will enforce a red and green zone cell phone policy. The hallways, cafeteria, and outside the building are considered green zones where cell phone usage is allowed ONLY when the time permits.

**Green Zone times are anytime before 7:50 and after 2:55.** ALL CLASSROOMS ARE CONSIDERED RED ZONES, unless the classroom teacher makes it a green zone for educational purposes. When the teacher indicates it is a red zone, all phones need to be turned off and out of sight. All school offices are always a red zone. Students may have their cell phones on them, but if their phones cause any type of audible or visual distraction, the phone will be confiscated by the teacher.

**To eliminate distractions, disruptions, academic dishonesty and theft, we expect parents to respect the educational process by not texting or calling their child during the school day. If there is a family emergency, parents should call the school at 313-827-2800. The following disciplinary actions will occur for students who do not adhere to the policy:**

**FIRST OFFENSE:** Teacher will confiscate phone and send it to the office and a phone call home will be made by office staff. As long as the student was cooperative and respectful, he/she will receive the phone at the end of the day from the office.

**SECOND OFFENSE:** The student may still come to the office; however, a parent/guardian listed on the emergency card with proper identification must accompany them at the end of the day to retrieve his/her phone.

**THIRD OFFENSE:** The parent/guardian listed on the emergency card with proper identification must come in and retrieve the phone from the office and the student will receive **1 hour** of detention, lunch detention, or community service .

**FOURTH OFFENSE:** All consequences of the third offense, plus additional hours of detention, lunch detention or community service, along with administrative intervention.

**SMITH WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR LOST OR STOLEN CELL PHONES OR ELECTRONIC DEVICES.**

**REFUSAL TO COMPLY WHEN ASKED TO SURRENDER PHONE TO ANY STAFF MEMBER**  
**STUDENT WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE REFERRED TO OFFICE :** The student will be given one more chance to turn the phone over to the office providing profanity and threats are not used with staff involved, and the parent/guardian will be notified of the insubordinate behavior. The student will be required to attend a restorative session. A behavior contract will be developed with the student.

**TEACHERS: All cell phones that are confiscated need to be turned into the student office before the end of the day.**

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

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