

Eighth Grade Language Arts
Mrs. Hahn
Syllabus



Expectations are set high for all students in eighth grade language arts. In preparation for high school classes, whether regular or honors, students this year will be required to work hard and keep themselves organized.

Mantras for the Year: BE KIND.
BE BRAVE.

Below are my procedures/expectations:

Behavior: Just remember...you are an eighth grader and other kids look up to you. Let's not let behavior issues waste our time in this class. The bottom line is this...I expect you to behave well in class, for you are here to learn and I am here to teach. I will *be kind* to you; *be kind* to each other and to me, and I am certain we will have a great year.

Tardiness: I take punctuality very seriously, as it is difficult to begin class when people are straggling in late. Please be in your seat when the bell rings; you will be considered tardy if you are anywhere but in your seat. There will be consequences for excessive tardiness.

Absences: When you are absent, it is your responsibility to find out and make up what you missed. I strongly encourage you to email me the day you are absent so I can fill you in on the day's events. I also encourage you to speak with a classmate. If that is not possible, it is best to see me after class or plan on staying after school the day you return to catch up.

All assignments will be listed on the calendar on my website. All extra papers are in the filing cabinet in the back of the room. If you need help, *be brave* enough to approach me and ask. Catch up on absentee work quickly so you don't fall further behind.

Late Work: Standard 8th grade policies state that late work will only be accepted until the end of the unit or within one week of the original due date, whichever comes first. After that, you will receive a zero. A 50% deduction will be taken from all work that is turned in one day late (unless you have an excused absence). Further deductions will be taken from work that is more than one day late. All written late work must be accompanied by a golden-colored late work excuse slip and must be turned into the

bin on my desk. If you are absent, please simply write “absent” on the lines dedicated to “Reason why work is late.”

We will be using Google Classroom this year to turn in electronic assignments. If you turn an electronic assignment in late, through Google Classroom, you must email me notification that you have done so.

Late essays and projects will receive an initial 25% deduction; further deductions will be taken beyond the first day.

Hall Passes: I expect you to have all your materials with you when you come to class. However, you will receive a hall pass that will allow you to leave class three times per quarter. The pass is intended for use when you need to use the restroom or go to your locker. If you lose your pass, you will not be issued a new one.

Grades: I update grades very regularly (at least once a week). You are expected to log on to Skyward and check your grade weekly, if not daily. If there is an error, you must report the mistakes to me within one week. ***Parents, please make sure you have your Skyward access code so you can log on and check your student’s progress.*** You should have already received this, but if you haven’t, contact the office.

Communication: My primary form of communication this year will be through email. I frequently email students and parents throughout the year. ***Parents, please check your email frequently.*** I send a monthly newsletter to both parents and students, and I hope you will read it. I encourage both students and parents to communicate with me through email (hahn.kristin@ccsd59.org). Parents, please make sure your current email address is on file with the office.

Students will utilize my website: <http://friendship.ccsd59.org/teachers/hahnkristin/> as a hub for the calendar and photos. I frequently post photos of our class happenings.

I also have a private Instagram account on which I will be posting various pictures of the kids engaged in classroom activities: www.instagram.com/mrshahnfjhs. Please send me a request if you’d like to follow me, as I only accept students and parents I know.

Finally, feel free to follow me on Twitter [@mrshahnfjhs](https://twitter.com/mrshahnfjhs). I am planning on tweeting important dates and reminders.

COMMUNICATION IS KEY!

Students, if you have a concern about your grade, **please come and talk with me** before or after class. I am more than willing to help you earn the grade you want, and

I can also clarify why an assignment of yours earned the grade it did. I know this is hard for some of you, but I hope you will *be brave* enough to come and speak with me if you are confused or concerned.

Materials Needed for Classes: Please bring these items everyday: folder, two spiral notebooks (provided), Chromebook, tablet, ear buds, pencil, blue/black pen, highlighter, colored pen for grading, loose-leaf paper.

There will be a consequence for students who are chronically unprepared.

I encourage you to obtain a valid public library card by the end of the first quarter (although, the sooner, the better). We will be utilizing the Des Plaines and Mount Prospect libraries' app, Overdrive, to check out books for our independent novel studies. If you cannot obtain a library card, you will need to make other arrangements for obtaining books.

Academic Assistance: Unless I have a meeting or am absent from school, I am available Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday until at least 3:20. If you need help with an assignment or need a quiet place to read, don't hesitate to come in. If I have to leave at 3:20 (to pick up my children from school), I will bring you to the LRC to work, or you are welcome to leave if you are a walker.

Miscellaneous Information: 1. Headings should be on the top right hand corner of every assignment and should contain your full name, the date, and the class period. 2. I expect each assignment you turn in to reflect your best effort. I cannot grade a paper that I cannot read, and I will not accept papers that are messy (stained, crumpled, poor handwriting, etc.). Take pride in your work.

And Finally (and most importantly): Remember these three things: PARTICIPATE, ASK QUESTIONS, AND SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS. If you are not willing to get involved with my classes, you will be bored...I can guarantee that. I ask you to stretch yourself this year and *be brave* enough to try something you've never done—participate, get your homework in, stop procrastinating, etc. I will work hard to make these classes interesting, worthwhile, informational, and fun. I need you to work hard to get as much out of them as you can by being an active participant.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to call or email me.

Mrs. Kristin Hahn

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<http://friendship.ccsd59.org/teachers/hahnkristin/>

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*Please **sign and return** this page (keep the other pages at home).

*Your signature confirms that you have read and understood all the policies and information listed above.

Date: _____

Student Name (Printed): _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Name(s) (Printed): _____

Parent(s) Signature: _____

Additional Information:

Parents, what is the best way for me to contact you? Phone Email

If I call home, is a translator needed? Yes No

If Yes, in what language? _____

Mrs. Hahn can post my child's picture online (Instagram, website, Twitter)

(Note: names are never posted online):

Yes No

My child is allowed to watch selected, educational, PG-13 movies in class this year:

Yes No

Anything else you'd like Mrs. Hahn to know: _____
