

## 2010-2011 Syllabus Ms. DeStasio 6th grade English/6th grade Cluster

Welcome to 6<sup>th</sup> grade! This year is going to be fantastic! Here is what you need to know to be successful in 6<sup>th</sup> grade English.

**Basics:** This class is a 2 hour block designed to align with district and state standards in English Language Arts. We will be reading, writing and studying grammar, punctuation and usage. By the end of the year, I hope you will all enjoy English as much as I do!

**Materials:** These materials must be with you in class every day. Some materials will be kept in the classroom. Please contact me as soon as possible if your family is unable to provide the materials so that we may help provide them.

- *Prentice Hall* Textbook (teacher assigns)
- Alias Vocabulary Journal (teacher assigns)
- Warm Up Journal (teacher assigns)
- Book Journal (teacher assigns)
- 3 subject notebook- OR - a small binder with three dividers
- 1 folder if notebook/divider does not have pockets
- 2 pens and 2 pencils minimum daily
- Highlighter
- 1 box of facial tissues (will be kept in classroom)
  - Optional Items for Classroom Donation
    - Markers
    - Colored Pencils
    - Printer Paper
    - Hand Sanitizer

**Grading Scale:** All assignments are weighted- which means that certain assignments are worth more than others. However, just because something is weighted less does not mean it will not affect your grade. The best way to get a good grade in this class is to turn in ALL of your work.

- 60% Assessments- all essays, major writing assignments, large group projects, tests, quizzes, etc.
- 30% Learning Activities- all homework, class work, and table work completed in class
- 10% Daily Activities- Behavior and participation, warm ups, book journals

This class uses the typical middle school grade scale- See below.

- 90-100% = A
- 80-89%= B
- 70-79%= C
- 60-69%= D
- -60%= F

**Late Work:** all work turned in late will be deducted one grade level.

**Absence/Sick Policy:** Student has 2 days for every day missed to turn in work without penalty. This does not apply to students who are suspended on days that assignments are due. They must be turned in on time. If you know that your student will be absent for a long period of time, please inform the attendance office for a contract.

**Homework:** Each student is required to be reading 30 minutes every night. Students must complete one Book Journal per week. These Book Journals will be collected every Wednesday and I will return them graded every Friday. Look for more information regarding Book Journals in another handout. Other homework assignments will be assigned periodically. Please check the school website [Challengerms.org](http://Challengerms.org) for updated homework assignments.

**Projects/Essays:** This class will have numerous large scale projects and essays throughout the school year. Unless otherwise informed, it is my expectation that the students are working on these projects at home.

**Tutoring:** My classroom is open on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons if students need help, materials, or just want a quiet place to work.

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**i21 Classroom:** We are privileged to have an i21 classroom! Our classroom is equipped with a Promethean Board, student Netbooks, and a teacher Tablet PC. I can't wait to get started on the fun and exciting lessons that involve this awesome technology. However, it is a privilege- not a right- for students to use this equipment. I expect no problems- but if any student is caught abusing this privilege, it may be taken away. Please look for more information on i21 in another handout.

### **Classroom Policy and Procedure:**

**Respect:** The number one rule in this classroom is RESPECT. We will all respect each other and everyone will abide by the golden rule. This classroom is meant to be a safe place where everyone can feel at home and comfortable. I will not tolerate any bullying.

### **Rules:**

1. RESPECT yourself, your classmates, your classroom and school.
2. Put forth your best effort
3. Raise your hand if you wish to speak
4. Follow directions the first time they are given.
5. All other CMS Rules and Expectations are followed

### **Entrance procedures/warm-ups**

1. Please enter classroom and sit in your assigned seat quickly and quietly.
2. Complete your warm-up activity as soon as you sit down
3. When you are finished-keep them on your desk and read or journal silently at your desk.
4. Class will discuss warm-ups when finished.
5. Warm-ups will be collected every Friday.

### **Exit procedure**

1. Ms. D will dismiss you when:
2. The classroom is clean and in order.
  - a. If art supplies were used- your table has worked together to insure they are put away in the proper location.
3. The tables are straight.
4. Every student is seated in his or her assigned seat.
5. The class is silent and ready to leave.

### **Bathroom Policy**

1. Only 3 bathroom passes will be allowed each grading period.
2. Only one student is allowed out of the room at a time.
3. Passes will not be given during class instruction time- don't even ask! Wait until it is quiet work time or a time when Ms. D is not talking to the entire class.
4. The passes must be recorded in the student planner before asking for permission.
5. The planner must belong to the student who is asking to use the bathroom.

**Consequences for not following directions:** Moving seats, lunch clean-up, loss of privileges, timeouts, email/phone home, other based on offense.

**Rewards for AWESOME behavior:** Music time, mini-breaks, choice seats, class treats, positive home contact

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**Teacher Communication:** I wish for our classroom to be as open as possible. Please do not hesitate to contact me by email or phone if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas for our class. We love to have visitors and volunteers. Please let me know if you would like to set something up to stop by.

I am so excited to start this new school year. It will be fantastic!

Thank you.

Ms. Taryn DeStasio

[Tdestasio@sandi.net](mailto:Tdestasio@sandi.net)

858-586-7001

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Please sign and return with your student \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_

I have read and understand the above information.

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email (please write clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

Student Email (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Please leave me a little note if you have any important information about your student that you would like to share with me.