**11 Language Arts**

**Course Syllabus 2012-2013**

Teacher: Ms. Gigliello

Room: 809

Email: hgigliello@mrsd.org

Course Requirements:

This year we will continue to work on many of the same skills you were introduced to last year. You will review the parts of a story and continue to look at literature in a deeper more analytical way. You will continue to work on vocabulary and grammar. You will write another research paper this year, and you will continue to write thesis-driven essays. This course will require your best effort at all times. You will be asked to continuously stretch your mind and abilities as the year progresses.

Students are given a calendar at the beginning of each month detailing the assignments.

* + Journal writing
	+ Essay writing
	+ Reflection writing
	+ Grammar
	+ Vocabulary (*Vocabulary Cartoons: SAT Word Power* and words pulled from the text)
	+ Literature circles
	+ Editing, discussing, and revising student writing, peer review, and revision
	+ Sustained Silent Reading
	+ Group and individual presentations
	+ Regular class discussion of reading --novels, plays, poetry, and essays
	+ Introduction and review of literary terms
	+ Individual conferences with the teacher
	+ Editing, discussing, and revising student writing
	+ Reading and analyzing the style and structure of model essays
	+ Introduction to the Senior Project
	+ NECAP preparation

Late Policy:

The English Department does not accept late homework for a grade. However, the Department recently changed the policy regarding major papers and individual projects (The Senior Project and minor nightly homework assignments do NOT fall into this category). Work turned in on time will receive full credit. On the first day the major assignment is late, you will be granted a one-day grace period for full credit. If the major assignment is turned in on the second day after the due date, you will receive up to 50% credit. The major assignment will be given a zero if it is turned in after that second day. The teacher reserves the right to determine if the student may need an additional extension on a major assignment (due to the student’s personal circumstances).

Turned in on Due Date: Full Credit

Turned in one day late: Full Credit (Grace Period)

Turned in two days late: 50% Credit

Subsequent days late: 0%

Attendance and Participation

* You are expected to come to class prepared to discuss the readings, share your written work, and comment constructively on your classmates’ work.
* Your attendance in class is crucial. Frequent absences will adversely affect your grade.
* Absences do not excuse you from due dates; you are responsible for keeping up with readings and assignments.
* Come to class on time!

Etiquette:

Although you are now in high school, you may still need to be reminded of how you should behave in a classroom setting.

* Please leave your cell phone in your locker before you come to class.
* Please come to class on time, and if you are late due to an emergency, please do not interrupt me or others as you enter. It is your responsibility to meet with me at my convenience to find out what you missed.
* Please do not begin packing your books before class is over.
* If you miss a class, please contact me to see what you missed. This is your responsibility.
* Show respect for others’ opinions.
* Do not use profanity or disparaging language regarding homosexuals and people with handicapping conditions. You know what words I am talking about. You are in high school. Using language that I reference here makes you appear ignorant, insensitive, and prejudice. Be careful.
* Be respectful and kind to everyone!

Paper Format:

All formal essay drafts must follow the following guidelines:

* All drafts must be word-processed (or typed). Print hard copies of all your work. Save and back-up your work every 15 minutes. **Computer mishap is not an acceptable excuse for late or “lost” papers.**
* Papers must be double spaced, in standard 12 point font size and with one-inch margins.
* Essays must follow MLA documentation guidelines.

**Helpful suggestions:**

* Do not use the first or second person point of view.
* Follow MLA style.
* Care about what you write.
* Consider your audience.
* Cite sources.
* Do not plagiarize.
* Include a works cited page with *each* draft.
* Proofread/edit on a hard copy and not on the computer screen.
* Read your writing and read it aloud when you proofread.
* Go to the library.
* Ask for help when you need it.
* Do not procrastinate.

**Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism is the act of claiming someone else’s words and ideas as your own. Consequences for plagiarism range from a failing grade on the paper to possible out of school suspension. This is a serious offense, and serious consequences will be given to offenders. In college, students can face expulsion for plagiarism.

**Weekly Schedule**

**Mondays**

Sustained Silent Reading (15 minutes)

Grammar Lesson or Literary Device and Practice (15-20 minutes)

Journal Writing with Prompt and Sharing (15 minutes)

**Tuesdays**

Sustained Silent Reading or Writing (15 minutes)

Vocabulary Lesson and Practice (15-20 minutes)

Journal Writing with Prompt and Sharing (15 minutes)

**Wednesdays**

Vocabulary (10 minutes)

Main Idea (etc.) Reading and Practice (15-20 minutes)

Journal Writing with Prompt and Sharing (10-15 minutes)

**Thursdays**

Sustained Silent Reading or Writing (15 minutes)

Vocabulary (10 minutes)

Literature Circle Activities or Class Activity (25 minutes)

**Fridays**

Reading and Writing Activity (25 minutes)

Vocabulary Practice or Quiz (20 minutes)

\*When the class reads a class novel, play, or poem, journal time and literature circle time will be devoted to the whole class reading.

**Class Assignments**

Class Literature

*The Maze Runner*

*Of Mice and Men*

*The Pearl*

*The Great Gatsby*

Literature Circles

Drama

*Death of a Salesman*

Non-fiction Writing

Essays

Current Events Articles

Research Paper

4-5 pages

Short Stories and Poetry

Selections from the grade 11 textbook