

Rationale

Language study cultivates the student's ability to communicate in multiple contexts through written, oral, and multi-media genres. Literary study develops the student's vocabulary as well as their written and oral communication abilities. Seventh grade English Language Arts will foster critical reading and writing skills and encourage the student to make connections with literature and non-fiction.

Course Description

The student in 7th Grade Language Arts will develop writing, speaking, and reading skills. The student will write on a regular basis, with an emphasis on fluency and analysis, and will develop strong academic practices and strategies, such as collegial discussion and evaluating text. The student will develop comprehension and reading strategies with both literary and non-fiction texts. The student will respond to literature and other texts in class discussion, peer groups, and through writing as well as informal and formal presentations.

Course Objectives

1. The student will write informally on a weekly basis, analyzing and responding to texts, and incorporating evidence from texts.
2. The student will master paragraph writing skills, focusing on format and incorporating evidence, with at least three developed pieces per grading term.
3. The student will write a minimum of two polished, multi-paragraph essays over the course of the year, following a writing process that includes revision and editing for standard English usage; genres will include exposition and argumentation.
4. The student will follow a style guide to format essays and projects and to cite sources while avoiding plagiarism.
5. The student will participate in informal discussions, presentations, peer feedback, or collaborative groups on a daily basis.
6. The student will complete at least one polished researched project, incorporating a minimum of three credible sources and will engage monthly in informal research.
7. The student will read, discuss, analyze, and apply literary devices to a minimum of three longer volumes of work, including at least one novel and at least one non-fiction piece at an appropriate level of text complexity.
8. The student will read extensively in a variety of genres, including short fiction, short non-fiction and informational text, and poetry, averaging a minimum of 50 pages of reading per week at an appropriate level of text complexity.
9. The student will write informally on a weekly basis, analyzing and responding to texts, and incorporating evidence from texts.
10. The student will participate in informal discussions, presentations, peer feedback, or collaborative groups on a daily basis.
11. The student will plan and present formally a minimum of one time over the course of the year with an emphasis on developing presentation skills (such as eye contact, tone, volume, pace, articulation, and pronunciation); the presentation may be collaborative or multi-media.

BOE June 14, 2018