

Danville 8th Grade English

Ms. Jessica Settles

Room 508

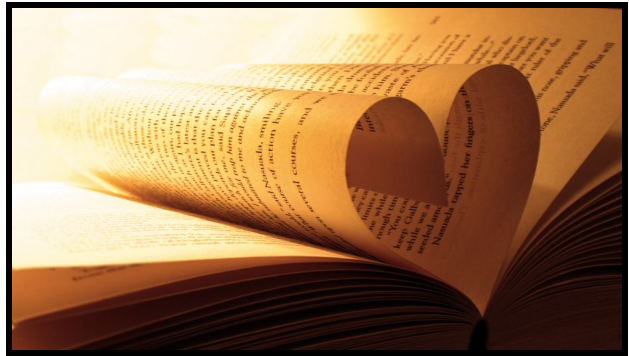
1(802) 684-2292 x508

Jessica.Settles@ccsuvt.net

www.DanvilleMSEnglish.weebly.com

"In a gentle way, you can shake the world,"

~Mahatma Gandhi



Teacher Mission

I promise to...

- Be enthusiastic about teaching you.
- Create a positive and welcoming learning environment.
- Consider your voice, choice, and individual learning style.
- Try my best to help you grow as a reader, writer, speaker, listener, and person.

Requirements

- ★ Come to class with a positive attitude, be an active participant, and be ready to learn!
- ★ Read the boards for all directions and information in class!
- ★ Be prepared to read complex texts, write frequently for different purposes, and participate in various discussion formats.
- ★ **Materials:**
 - Ms. Settles will provide you with a journal for class and a hanging file folder to store your work. At the end of each semester, you will take your work home and save it until the end of 8th grade. Students should have a binder, folder, or place at home to save work.
 - Students must have a planner to write down assignments and reminders (paper or digital), pens and pencils, their chromebook and an independent reading book at all times.
 - Headphones also may be used in class at times.

Daily Class Agenda

Each class period is 45 minutes and will be run using certain routines.

1. **Do Now:** 5-7 mins, changes every day, writing, reading, grammar, vocabulary, etc.
2. **Planners/HW/Boards:** Students write in planners and review important information on boards.
3. **Activities/Lessons/Work Time**
4. **Exit Ticket:** Quick check for understanding/exit task before leaving.

Grade Distribution

- | | |
|--|------------|
| ★ Reading (Reading literature/informational, assessments, strategies, etc.) | 20% |
| ★ Writing (Prompts, Essays, Formal Writing Pieces, etc.) | 20% |
| ★ Speaking and Listening (Discussions, Being an Audience Member, etc.) | 20% |
| ★ Language (Vocabulary, Grammar, Handwriting, Typing, Cursive, etc.) | 20% |
| ★ HOW/TRACK Skills (Teamwork, Responsibility, Communication, Kindness) | 20% |

* **Late Work** will impact the Responsibility/Habits of Work but will not impact the actual assignment grade. Students are expected to complete all work to the best of their ability.

Specific Behavior Expectations

- Behavior System: 1) Student receives verbal warning 2) Student & teacher talk in hallway. 3) Student sent to office to return next day after talk with teacher.
- Seats will be assigned in pairs, groups and individual seats and switched daily.
- Respect the classroom and leave it the way you found it. Clean up after yourselves.
- Use appropriate and respectful language in class. Don't put people down/bully.
- Show respectful body language. Keep hands to self. No throwing objects.
- Backpacks should be stored in lockers. Bring only the necessary materials to class.
- Food and beverages are allowed but should not be distracting. No soda, energy drinks or full meals.
- Cell phones should not be seen in class and put in lockers. Students will get a warning and then phones will go in the box for the rest of the period. If it is still an issue, it will be given to the front office and students may get their phones back at the end of the day.
- A class music list will be posted for students to add to for the class playlist. Personal music or videos are not allowed during middle school classes. Headphones may be used for lessons/activities.
- Flexible Seating options are to be used respectfully and at appropriate times. Students will take turns.
- Laptops will be used appropriately. You will need to use paper and pencil if it becomes an issue.
- Plagiarism is a serious offense and will be dealt with according to the student handbook.
- Please note that teachers are mandated reporters and will report any suspected danger.
- I keep in touch with parents and guardians for both negative and positive concerns.

Emergency Procedures/Drills

Danville School uses three different announcements for emergencies:

- 1) **“Lockdown” or Secure the Building- (Code Red)** - Students get into a designated corner of the room, sit down, and be silent. Teachers will clear the halls, close shades, lock doors and windows. The class will remain in the spot until the administrator announces it is time to end the lockdown.
- 2) **“Clear the Halls”** - All students come into the classroom from the hallway.
- 3) **Fire** - Go out the designated exit, middle school lines up in the upper parking lot, stay with your class. --
- 4) **Evacuation** - all students and staff evacuate to predetermined locations off school grounds.

Curriculum (Connected to Social Studies Units)

Unit Name	Texts & Topics
1. Bootcamp	★ Beginning of the Year Tasks & Activities
2. Conflict in Relationships & Society	★ Topics: Love, Relationships, Conflict, Elizabethan Era, Narrative Writing ★ Texts: Poems, Articles, Videos, Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare, EPICAC by Kurt Vonnegut
3. Seen & Unseen Effects of War	★ Topics: WWI, Conflict, Effects of War, Argument Writing ★ Texts: Articles, Videos, Stay Where You Are And Then Leave by John Boyne
4. Times of Progress & Change	★ Topics: Civil Rights Movement, Change Agents, Progress, Research Papers ★ Texts: Poems, Ads, Videos, Speeches, Twice Toward Justice: Claudette Colvin by Phillip Hoose
5. Power of Storytelling & Voice	★ Topics: Voice, Storytelling, Verse Novels, Poem Writing ★ Texts: Poems, Speeches, Videos, The Crossover by Kwame Alexander, Home of the Brave by Katherine Applegate

Please take home and review with your parent or guardian. Have your parent or guardian sign below and return only this part of the syllabus for your first official HOW Responsibility grade, keep the rest of the syllabus. If your parent would like to be on my email list for frequent updates please have them fill out the email portion below.

Student Name: _____

Signature: _____

Email: _____

If you have any questions or concerns about anything regarding this syllabus or your student, please feel free to contact me:

Jessica Settles
Jessica.Settles@ccsuvt.net
1(802) 684-2292 x508