**Grade 8 (ELA) English/Language Arts--*Syllabus \**2018-2019\* 9.7.18**

**Ms. Walker-Room 316**

(**MASH) Mauro Sheridan Inter-district Magnet School**

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            Welcome to 8th grade! This is a very exciting and challenging year! You are literally at the “top of the class” and as the ***leaders*** of the school you should be anxious to set an example of high academic and social standards for yourself and among your peers.

            This year in your ELA classes you will complete ***six, six-week units***—throughout all (4) marking periods. The initial unit will require you to read, understand, analyze, and respond to ***a variety of short stories*** while learning important ***literary*** ***elements/strategies/concepts*** such as: theme, main idea, claim, evidence, plot, characterization, objective-summarization, Cornell note-taking, as well as developing listening & vocabulary skills, etc. You will then transition into the 2nd half of the school year which will require you to read ***two CORE novels*** *(nonfiction & fiction*) & continue implementing specific literary elements, strategies & concepts as needed/learned previously throughout the reading of each CORE novel. Below is a *brief outline* of the NEWLY revised NHPS/ELA curriculum for grade 8:

***\*approx. MP1 & MP2:***

**Unit 1-*Short Story Unit*** “A Hundred Bucks of Happy,” “The Lottery,” “Love,” & “The Most Dangerous Game”

**Unit 2-*Fiction Unit***; focusing on excerpts from “The House on Mango Street”

**Unit 3-*Nonfiction Unit***; research & speech analysis/writing ***\*texts will vary (TBD)***

***\*approx. MP3 & MP4:***

**Unit 4-*Multi-genre Unit***; poetry, screenplay, myth, science fiction, etc. ***\*texts will vary (TBD)***

**Unit 5-*Nonfiction Unit (argument-based writing task)/*CORE text**: “Getting Away with Murder: The True Story of the Emmett Till Case” by Chris Crowe (non-fiction)

**Unit 6-*Fiction Unit (literary analysis writing task)/*CORE text:** -"Monster" by Walter Dean Myers (fiction)

            This year you will also be expected to complete daily class work in your Reader’s/Writer’s binder, independent reading & nightly homework related to concepts discussed in class. In order to successfully complete these tasks you are HIGHLY ENCOURAGED to bring with you the following **materials** to class with you ***every day***:

1. Pencil/pen
2. Homework
3. Independent reading book
4. Folder/Binder for all ELA materials & organizational purposes
5. Willingness to LEARN!
*

            At the end of each marking period, you will be given a grade for ELA based on the following areas: **class work (25%), homework (25%), tests/quizzes/projects (40%), and participation (10%).** In order to succeed in all of these areas, you must be an organized and active listener/reader/participant in class; fully committed to your academics. You must also demonstrate respect for yourself, classmates, and teachers.

*I look forward to being your Language Arts teacher for the (2018-2019) school year at MASH!*

*Ms. Walker :-)*

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Student Name-\*signature

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Parent/Guardian name(s) \*printed

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Parent/Guardian name(s) \*signature

***\*\*Using the space provided below; PLEASE ADD/UPDATE🡪 CURRENT PHONE NUMBER/EMAIL & PREFERRED TIME TO BE CONTACTED (as necessary/for accurate school records/in case of emergency):***

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