

Welcome to Hamlin Middle School 2014-2015!

7th grade block: Language Arts & Social Studies

Another school year is upon us and we are excited to be a part of HMS! We'd like to share some information about our classes and give you the opportunity to tell us about your child.

Throughout the year we will be emphasizing comprehension, reading development, writing skills, grammar, and essay development in Language Arts. Social Studies will begin with a review of geographic themes and continue with the study of ancient civilizations that began in 6th grade. The focus this year will be on the development of government, belief systems, and culture.

Each student must earn at least **25 Reading Counts** points per quarter. This requires three steps: reading a book, taking a quiz, and writing a review. The majority of this needs to be done outside of class. **Homework for Language Arts is 20 minutes of independent reading every day.** Students can avoid having additional homework by using class time wisely. Success will depend on students' willingness to work hard and turn in assignments on time!

Everyone is required to use their planner and write in daily assignments. All assignments must be legible and neat. Late work can be turned in for partial credit up to a week late.

Building and district guidelines are to be followed, along with classroom expectations:

- 1. Be in your seat and ready to learn when class starts.**
- 2. Come to class prepared with supplies: paper, pencil, textbook, planner, binder, silent reading book.**
- 3. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.**
- 4. Follow directions the first time they are given.**

Grades are based on a point system. We use the following scale:

90-100% = A

80-89% = B

70-79% = C

60-69% = D

Below 60% = F

Please ask to see your student's planner daily. It's a wonderful tool for students as well as a means for us to communicate with each other. Feel free to call or send an email if you have any questions or concerns. The best times to reach us are from 11:00-11:45 or before and after school. Call ahead of time if you would like to make an appointment.

Thank you!

Rachel Allen
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Elizabeth Shulman
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Kathleen Weaver
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Please keep this page so you and your student can refer to it throughout the school year.

Please fill out the following page and have your student return it to his or her Language Arts teacher.

This Is My Child!

Please tell us about your child and have him or her return this page

Please share only information you feel comfortable sharing and that your child would feel comfortable with us knowing. We don't want to embarrass them or make them feel "invaded". Have fun and feel free to brag a bit about your kid!

Tell us about some of your child's favorite things, activities, even foods.

Do you have any concerns about school you'd like to share?

Tell us about your child's strengths, things they do well in school or out of school.

Tell us about those special things that make you so proud of your child!

Thank you for taking the time to write about your student. Feel free to use the back of this page if you need more space.

Student Name (please print) _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian name (please print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Preferred Contact Phone #: _____

Preferred Contact Email: _____

I would prefer to be contacted by (circle one): Phone / Email