

**SCHOOL: BROAD MEADOWS**  
**ADDRESS: 50 CALVIN ROAD**  
**PHONE #: 617 984-8723**

## **SYLLABUS**

**TEACHERS:** Mary Flaherty and Laura Brunelle

**COURSE/GRADE LEVEL** EIGHTH GRADE ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

### **INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS**

Building English Skills (8) The Language of Literature, Daily Oral Language, Theater Field Experiences

Novels may be selected from the following: *Call of the Wild, The Giver, Tangerine, Friedrich, A Boat to Nowhere, Biography of Malcolm X, To Be a Slave, Farewell to Manzanar*

### **MAJOR TOPICS\***

**I. 5 Step Writing Process:** Previewing, Drafting, Revising, Editing and Publication

Formal and Informal Language

Creative (e.g. poetry) Descriptive

Expository

Letter Writing

Narrative Persuasive

Collins Writing Program

Persuasive

**II. Composition / Literature Connection (Students will analyze and/or apply the following literary elements to student writing)**

### **III. Elements of Fiction:**

Setting

Theme

Character

Plot

Conflict

Symbolism

Mood

Tone

### **IV. Elements of Nonfiction:**

Autobiography

Biography

Other (e.g. Essays, Newspapers, Speeches)

### **V. Elements of Poetry:**

Figurative Language (e.g. simile, personification)

Form (e.g. ballad, haiku)

Sound Devices (e.g. alliteration, assonance)

Imagery

### **VI. Literary Devices:**

Flashback, Foreshadowing, Point of View

## **VII. Literature**

Vocabulary

Genres: Novels, Short Stories, Drama, and Poetry

## **VIII. Oral Presentations / Speaking and Listening Skills / Discussion Skills**

## **IX. Conventions & Structures of English Language**

Parts of Speech

Grammar

Usage

Sentence Structure

Mechanics (e.g. Capitalization, Punctuation)

### **\*ASSESSMENT TOOLS**

Portfolios

Rubrics

Teacher observations

Projects

Notebooks

Interdisciplinary activities

Open ended questions

Co-operative learning projects

Journal/Diaries

Objective Tests/Quizzes

Exams

Essays

Presentations

FCA'S for long essays

Class Participation

Homework

**\*See Individual Student Education Plans or 504 Plans for modification where applicable.**

### **HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS**

Students are expected to complete all homework assignments. Homework should never take longer than 30 minutes to complete and all students have been told not to spend more than 30 minutes on ELA homework.

### **GRADING POLICY**

Grades are based on a combination of the following: Initiative in Learning, Mastery of Skills and Techniques, Oral Participation in Class, Performance on Projects, Papers and Exams, Preparation for Class, Attendance, Reliability Meeting Deadlines, and Writing development.

### **MAKEUP PROCEDURE**

Make up work done in a timely fashion will be accepted within the term. Students are responsible to obtain any work they have missed. The teacher will not seek out the student to complete missed work.

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Students are expected to have their novel, notebooks, and writing tools with them each day.

**\*Adjustments may be made in this syllabus to meet student needs.**