Mrs. Mattingly’s 6th Grade Syllabus

|  |
| --- |
| **Welcome** |
| Welcome to 6th Grade ELA! I am so thrilled to be with you here at West End Middle. Before coming to West End this year, I taught fifth and eighth grades, and coached first year teachers. I am originally from San Diego… *and* western Kentucky. I attended Western Kentucky University for my undergrad (B.A. in English), and am starting my Master’s in Educational Studies from Johns Hopkins University. |
| **Educational Philosophy** |
| I believe that all children are inherently curious and boundlessly brilliant; therefore, it is my responsibility to provide them with opportunities to showcase their brilliance & to equip them with the skills they need to navigate the world so they can create their own place in our society. I do this by providing students with access to complex, relevant texts that will allow them to build knowledge of their world and use the knowledge they bring to connect to the content. In our class, students will read closely, think deeply, write regularly, and discuss freely every day. |
| **Book List** |
| * *Peter Pan,* J.M. Barrie * *A Long Walk to Water,* Linda Sue Park * *Black Ships Before Troy,* Rosemary Sutcliff * *Dragonwings,* Laurence Yep * *The Giver,* Lois Lowry * *We are the Ship,* Kadir Nelson * *Birchbark House,* Louise Erdrich |
| **Agenda** |
| All students should bring their West End agenda to class every day and record homework assignments. Students will also need their agendas to leave the classroom for restroom and water breaks. Please check your child’s agenda every day for homework assignments. |
| **Homework Policy** |
| This year, students’ homework assignments will count for 10% of their overall grade. When assigned intentionally and purposely, homework can be an effective way for students to enhance their learning. My promise to you is to only assign homework that is meaningful and will help your student become a better reader and writer. Some examples of homework assignments include readings and annotations, journal entries, writing assignments, and reading reflections. |
| **Supply List** |
| Please ensure your student has the following: 1” 3 ring binder, 5 dividers with pockets, 2 composition notebooks, glue stick, pencils, highlighters, post-it notes, and lined wide-ruled paper. If you need any help securing supplies, please reach out to me immediately. |
| **Website and Learning Management System** |
| We will be utilizing Edmodo in our classroom and Google Docs. Each student will have an Edmodo account where they will submit work, post discussions, and access articles and multimedia files. Parents can also sign up for Edmodo for updates and access to content that your students are using during the day. Additionally, I will update the sixth grade website weekly, so please bookmark this page: westend6thgrade.weebly.com.. |
| **Grading Policy** |
| The grading scale is as follows:   * 100-93 A * 92-85 B * 75-84 C * 70-74 D * 69 & below F   Students will be given multiple opportunities to demonstrate mastery of every standard throughout the course of every unit. |
| **Cheating** |
| If it is clear that a student has verifiably cheated, he/she will receive a zero for the assignment without the opportunity to retake. Students are also assigned a zero for assignments that they do not attempt. |
| **Red Flag Mechanism** |
| I use a red flag mechanism in my classroom to help students ensure they achieve academic and social-behavioral success.  Each of the following is a red flag:   * 3 Formatives with 75 or below * 1 summative with a 74 or below * Failure to submit HW assignment * Two supervised recesses within a given month   When a student is flagged, we will create an action plan which may include one of the following interventions: supervised, in-class lunch to finish/make up or redo assignments or receive tutoring, before/after school tutoring, family meeting to create supportive plan, or a school-based support team. |
| **Student Expectations** |
| Students are expected to demonstrate self-control, respect, and leadership at all times. In class, this means that students will keep hands, feet, and other objects to themselves, follow directions the first time given, seek help when needed, raise their hands to speak use appropriate volume and language when speaking, speak positively about self and others, bring all needed materials and supplies, take care of needs outside of class before coming to class, arrive on time, and do their best.  Additionally, since I utilize flexible seating, students are expected to use their seats in a smart, safe, and productive way. I reserve the right to move anyone at any time. |
| **Interventions** |
| When students fail to meet expectations, they will have the following interventions:   1. Warning 2. Supervised Recess 3. Parent Phone Call 4. Teacher’s Choice (Reflection/Supervised Lunch) 5. Referral |
| **Incentives** |
| Students who meet and exceed expectations will be rewarded in various ways including, but not limited to: Birdie Bills (which can be used to purchase classroom and grade-level privileges), notes/calls home, Fun Fridays (30 minute activity time), and quarterly incentive events and field trips. |
| **Contact Information** |
| Please feel free to reach out to me at any time!  Email: [Lindsey.mattingly@mnps.org](mailto:Lindsey.mattingly@mnps.org)  Cell Phone: 615.208.6550  West End Phone Number: 615.298.8425  Website: westend6thgrade.weebly.com |