

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

MRS. DIXON

ROOM 706



Curriculum

English Language Arts will consist of a combination of writing, reading, spelling, and grammar. In addition, we will focus on individual comprehension, vocabulary and communication skills.

Common Core State Standards

This year, the Common Core will begin to be assessed by the state of Ohio. A detailed description of the Common Core Standards and a comparison of the curriculum for grades 6, 7, and 8 can be located by visiting the official page of the English Language Arts Common Core at <http://corestandards.org/the-standards>.

Classroom Rules

At Louisville Middle School, every student has the right to receive an education in the safest environment possible. In order to ensure this, the administrators, teachers and staff must develop and enforce not only the rules, but consequences. My philosophy is that all students have the choice to follow the rules set forth, both within my classroom and within Louisville Middle School. Should a student choose to not follow the rules, they relieve me from choice.

Mrs. Dixon's Classroom Rules:

- Come to class on time
- Come to class with necessary materials
- Follow directions the first time they are given
- Respect your teacher and fellow classmates
- Raise your hand and wait for permission to speak



Materials and Supplies

~2 inch binder (blue)

~Blue and Black composition books

~Notebook Paper

~Red or Purple grading pen

~Pencils and erasers

~Sheet Protectors

~Blue or Black pens

~Highlighters

Homework

Homework should not take students more than 20-30 minutes per subject each night. It also should not account for more than 10-15% of a student's total grade at the end of each quarter. Not completing homework should never cause a student to fail a grading period. However, lack of homework completion can be expected to lower one's grade by at least a letter. In language arts class, homework could look like:

- Vocabulary definitions, reading assignments, answering comprehension questions, completing an extension from that day's lesson, response to literature or informational text.

Homework is NOT:

- An on-going assignment (AR or iReady), a project of which students are given a length of time to complete, a take-home quiz, studying for a test/quiz, a writing project.

Taking a Zero

Students who do not have their homework completed or turned in (and do NOT have an excused absence from the day(s) prior) will receive a zero. "0", on that assignment and be required to fill out a "Taking a Zero" documentation form. This form will be kept in the progress folder and serve as data as to why a homework assignment is not complete.

Discipline Policy

In this class, we adhere to the rules and procedures that are set forth in the seventh grade. It is important to note that marks are cumulative among all of the seventh grade teachers. This means that marks earned by all teachers are recorded together and will result in the consequences outlined below for repeated violation of classroom and/or school rules.

Step 1	Upon earning the first mark, a student's disciplinary reflection will be recorded by the teacher issuing the mark. The first time, a verbal reminder of expectations will be given to the student.
Step 2	Upon earning the second mark, a mark will be recorded and a student conference will be held between the student and teacher issuing the mark. At that time, a plan to avoid said behavior(s) may be put into place, if necessary.
Step 3	Upon earning the third mark, a mark will be recorded and a conference will be held between the team of seventh grade teachers and the student to discuss previous behaviors and ways to prevent additional misbehaviors from occurring. Parent contact will be made at this time as well.
Step 4	Upon earning the fourth mark and for any marks occurring thereafter, a disciplinary referral will be sent to the principal's office. Consequences earned will be based on previous infractions and deemed appropriate by the principals and/or teachers.

All marks will continue for the duration of the current nine-week period. At the beginning of a new nine-week period, all marks are wiped clean. Any inappropriate behavior may also be dealt with on an individual basis and result in consequences deemed appropriate by the teacher and/or administrators.

Daily Classroom Procedures

1. Enter the classroom ready to learn ☺
2. Read the SmartBoard for today's directions and Bell Work
3. Begin working on the bell work immediately

Absent Work Procedures

From Home:

- Visit Mrs. Dixon's webpage at mrskdixon.weebly.com
- Look to see what you missed
- Download and print off any worksheets and papers from my webpage.

From School:

- Locate the folder matching the day (s) missed.
- Gather any worksheets and papers from the folder
- See Mrs. Dixon for questions about any assignment.

Grading

A. Grading Scales

Louisville City Schools will use the following academic grading scale to report marking period and exam grades:

Letter Grade Percentage		
A+ 100 – 98	A 97 – 95	A- 94 – 92
B+ 91 – 89	B 88 – 86	B- 85 – 83
C+ 82 – 80	C 79 – 77	C- 76 – 74
D+ 73 – 71	D 70 – 68	D- 67 – 65
F 64 – 0		

Student Progress Folders

Throughout the school year, it is my goal for students to improve their skills as readers and writers from the beginning to end. In order to track this progress, each class period will have a folder stored during the year in my classroom. The folder will contain written samples, quizzes, tests, and other various assessments.

Cheating: Academic Honesty Policy

Cheating, or purposefully stealing someone else's work and handing it in as your own, is a serious matter. Cheating in any form is a serious offense and WILL NOT be tolerated at Louisville Middle School. Unless you are assigned to work in groups or with a partner, ALL work is to be completed independently. Students who choose to borrow, copy, or loan assignments, quizzes, and/or tests to their classmates are guilty of cheating. It is the belief of the faculty of Louisville Middle School that all parties involved in cheating share in the responsibility and therefore in the consequence whether or not they were the giver OR the taker. Cheating includes copying information from the Internet and plagiarism or the presentation of "someone else's ideas, research, or opinion as your own-even if you have rephrased it in different words" (Writing and Grammar: Communication in Action, page 760). A student caught cheating will receive an automatic "zero" on that particular assignment and a discipline referral will be sent to the assistant principal regardless of marks earned. Any student(s) caught cheating may also be dealt with on an individual basis and receive consequences deemed appropriate by the teacher and/or administrators.

Programs Utilized



Contact Information

Email:

kdixon@lepapps.org

Webpage:

<http://mrskdixon.weebly.com>

My webpage is a very valuable tool. Not only are study guides posted to the webpage on a regular basis, in addition, daily assignments for 7B are posted daily. For parents and students, this offers a "one-stop shop" for your child's daily assignments. Parents often utilize my webpage to keep updated on their child's daily work requirements.

Remind:



What's Remind?

Remind is a simple way for you to stay informed and up-to-date with what's happening in your child's classes. By joining your teacher's class on Remind, you're choosing to receive class messages via push notifications, SMS, or email. Don't worry, your phone number will not be shared with the teacher or anyone else in the class.

How does 7th grade use Remind?

Remind is a smartphone app that allows students and parents to sign up to get text alerts of upcoming tests, quizzes, and major assignments. Remind is a mass text program that is a one way communication. Students and parents are not able to reply to Remind text messages. Seventh grade teachers highly encourage BOTH students and parents to sign up for Remind. We feel that this keeps the lines of communication open between students, parents, and teachers.

Mrs. Dixon's Remind:

Text @kdixon7 to 81010



Dear Parents,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome both students and parents to seventh grade English Language Arts! Seventh grade proves to be a challenging year for many students. Due to this, I would like to stress the importance of a TEAM approach between parents, students, and school personnel. Keeping lines of communication open between is a vital part of this. The best way to get in touch with me is through email at kdixon@lepapps.org. Realizing that not all parents have email, I can also be reached by telephone at 330.875.5597. Due to my teaching schedule, phone calls may not be returned as quickly as an email would, but I will do my best to stay in contact with you throughout each day. Please review this information sheet with your child. Additional copies may be retrieved by accessing my website.

Thank you!

Mrs. Kasey Dixon

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By signing, I state that I have read, understand, and will support the Classroom Information and Procedures for Mrs. Dixon's ELA class.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Please use the following space to provide me with any information or concerns you may have regarding your son or daughter that you feel may be important for me to know.

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**Internet Availability:**

Do you have internet access from your home on a daily basis?                      YES                      NO

**Contact Information:**

Parent (s) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: (most available) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_