**Special Day Class Syllabus 2016-2017**

*Year of the Strong Reader*



**Time:**

Periods 1-6

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

**Our BIG GOALS this year**

**Languge Arts:**

* **Every student will improve their reading FLUENCY (ability to read words) and COMPREHENSION (ability to understand what they are reading) by 1.5 years.**

**Math:**

* Students will average an 80% or above on all assessments for every standard taught

**History:**

* Students will score a 4 or 5 out of 5 on all “weekly critical question” assignments (essays, posters, presentations, drawings etc.)
* Students will confidently form opinions on challenging and ambiguous questions

**Science**:

* Students will be able to understand and evaluate information that is scientific in nature
* Student will know, use, and interpret scientific explanations of the natural world.

**P.E.**

* Students understand basic movement and possess physical skills, including gross and fine motor skills, such as grasping.

**Class Focus: Year of the STRONG Reader**

Becoming a better reader can be frustrating, and for many of us, learning to read has not come easy. However, being a good reader is the most important skill you can leave high school with and it is something you cannot avoid or ignore. That’s why this year as a class, we are going to work extremely hard to improve our reading skills. We are going to be tough, try our hardest everyday, and act as a team to significantly improve our reading. Its not going to be easy, but its going to change all of our lives for the better.

**Academic Guidelines:**

All of the English standards we focus on will be the most important things from the **CAHSEE** test. We will also focus a lot on reading itself, learning the skills it takes to be a strong reader and learning tricks for getting through hard readings.

**Materials and supplies**

All students are expected and required to enter class on time each day prepared for activities. Students are required to bring the following to class each day:

* A 1” Binder for IEP related materials
* Pen or pencil
* Composition book

**Grading Policy**

A point system will be used for grading. You will be graded on class participation, your binder/notebook, in-class assignments, and participation. These activities will be assigned a value which will be recorded in the grade book. At the end of the grading period, a percentage will be assigned using the following grading scale.

90 - 100% = A

80 - 89% = B

70 - 79% = C

60 - 69% = D

59% and below = F

**Class points**

Students will earn credit for assignments and work that are divided into the following categories:

* +1 point: Participation and classroom behavior
* +1 point: Daily Discussion
* +1 point: Meeting/Exceeding classroom expectations
* +1 point: Completion of assignments

**Cheating**

NO form of cheating will be tolerated. If any form of cheating occurs, the work will be given a zero and parents will be notified.

**Absences**

Since attendance is a significant part of the student’s overall grade, it is imperative that students are present in class EACH DAY! It is the student’s responsibility to complete any work that was missed during their absence. NOTE: You will lose points for every day that an assignment is overdue.

**Tardies**

Students are required to be on time to every class. This means that you are in your seat and ready to work when the bell rings. If you are tardy, you must sign in on the **Tardy Sheet. Excessive tardiness will result in** a loss of participation points and/or loss of privileges. **If you are tardy three or more times in one week you must schedule a debrief with Ms. Zamora.**

**Classroom Expectations**

You are expected to:

* Come to class everyday
* Be on time to class and in your seat ready to work
* Be respectful to others
* Participate in class discussions
* Come prepared with necessary materials
* Follow all school rules listed in your handbook
* Have your cell phones and other electronic devices shut off and put away

**Discipline Policy**

Students who do not follow the classroom expectations will be given two verbal warnings to stop the behavior. After the second warning, if the student does not stop the behavior, they will be asked to remain after class to discuss behavior. If the behavior continues beyond that, the student will receive a phone call home and lastly be referred to Administration.

**Bathroom Policy**

Students are prohibited from leaving class during the first and last 15 minutes of class time. Students will be allowed to leave the class, but must return within 5 minutes or lose bathroom pass privileges.

**Rewards and Privileges!!!**

Students have the opportunity to earn individual tickets. When students attain 10 tickets they are able to exchange them for a positive consequence from my rewards binder.

**Consequences**

There are rewards for positive behavior and academic performance , but there are also consequences for behavior that is unacceptable and inappropriate. These consequences will be fair, immediate, and reasonable.

**Parent Meetings**

Active and informed parents are essential to the students’ academic success. Therefore, I will keep open communication with parents via email, phone and in person meetings. Each meeting will give parents the opportunity to check the progress of their student.

Ms. Zamora

If you have any questions about the expectations, discipline, or grading policy, please do not hesitate to email me.

Note: Ms. Zamora reserves the right to change the syllabus with proper notification to students.

**Fill out and return the bottom portion of this syllabus to Ms. Zamora. Keep the rest for further reference.**

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I have read and understand the classroom expectation and grading policy.



Student \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_