**English 9 Ms. Schoen Room E-27**

Email: aschoen@wcskids.net website: ashleeschoen.weebly.com

**Welcome to English Class**

Please review the following syllabus with your parent or guardian. As you review this syllabus together, put a check in each box to indicate that you both understand the class policies. After you have finished reviewing, both you and your parent/guardian will sign the syllabus. Please return to class by Friday, September 6, 2019. This will be your first homework grade.

**Class Rules**

All rules in the Sterling Heights High School Student Code of Conduct must be followed at all times. The following classroom rules apply at all times:

* No food or drink during instructional time. Finish your snacks, lunch, or breakfast before class begins.
* Electronic devices, including cell phones and smart watches, are not permitted. **This class is a red zone**.
* Bring **all** necessary materials to class (see below). Do not come to class and then ask to leave to get your supplies. You will be marked tardy.
* Conduct yourself in a responsible and respectful manner.
* Follow directions and engage in active listening.

**Attendance and Passes**

* Students will be given five passes to use for this class period for the semester. A section in your agenda will be marked off for this class. You should only use a pass if your situation is urgent. You need your agenda for passes.
* It is to your benefit to have excellent attendance. It is expected you will be on time for class every day.
* Students have one day per absence to make up missed work.

**Required Materials**

* Textbook
* SSR Novel
* Class Handouts
* Homework
* Loose-leaf paper
* Blue/ Black ink pens
* 2 *sharpened* pencils
* Eraser
* Highlighter
* (1) 3- ring binder with six dividers
* WCS Login/Password

**Grading**

* **25%**: **Homework and classwork**. You will be assigned homework and classwork to complete thoroughly and accurately. These assignments will help prepare you for assessments.
* **75%**: **Assessments:** Tests, quizzes, writing, projects, presentations, SSR participation.

**Plagiarism**

* Plagiarism is turning in someone else’s work/writing and claiming it as your own. This includes copying and pasting information or images from the internet, copying text lines from books, or copying work from a classmate or family member. It is stealing. Plagiarism is not allowed at any time, in any class, at any institution. It is cheating and undermines the educational system.
* Students who plagiarize, or cheat on their work in any other way, will receive a zero for the assignment/assessment and will be referred to administration.

**Late Work**

* Late work will be marked down one full grade each day it is late.
* Missed test or quizzes must be taken within one week of your **excused** absence. If your absence is unexcused or a skip, you will not be allowed to make up the missed assessment.
* If a student misses class notes because of an absence, there is an alternate assignment for students to complete that provides the same information. It is the student’s responsibility to complete the alternate assignment.
* Students may get the missed notes from another student, but they will not be provided by the teacher.

**Extra Credit**

* There will be opportunities for students to earn extra credit. However, extra credit will only be available to students who have completed their work. Students with missing assignments and assessments will not be offered extra credit as a substitute for class work.

**Additional Information**

* This is a required course for graduation. You will not graduate if you do not earn credit for this course.
* The most efficient way for parents to communicate with me is via email. Students should speak with me directly.
* Students will not be allowed to cause distractions during instructional time.
* Lesson plans and due dates are available on my weebly site.
* There is value in every class you take. Problem solving, reading skills, critical thinking, and content knowledge are a part of all of your classes. These are valuable tools that will help you in any area you may work or study. If you try your best, you will get something meaningful and useful from all your classes.

**Course Lessons and Readings**

This course will have two main units for this semester: a short story/poetry unit and a novel unit. Our course novel will be *Mississippi Trial*. For these units, we will study the content and structure of the pieces, focusing on how literacy devices are used to create good stories. At the end of each unit, students will be assigned an essay to show their understanding in writing. Supplemental pieces and historical information will also be included. In addition to our main units of study, the activities below will be included regularly during class:

**Daily Edits and Daily Language Practice (Bell Work)**

Each day class will begin with a daily edit practice and a mini-grammar lesson. The daily edit will be a paragraph with ten errors for students to correct. The mini-grammar lesson will review basic grammar.

* Bell work will be collected after ten lessons are complete. (homework/classwork grade)
* Students are responsible for completing the bell work lessons if they are absent.
* There will be a quiz after completing ten lessons. (assessment grade)

**Journal Writing**

Journal writing is a free-writing activity on various topics. Topics will usually connect to the unit/lessons we are covering in class. The purpose of journal writing is for each student to *write* and *reflect*. Journal writes are an assessment grade.

* The teacher will select one journal entry every 2-3 weeks to grade. If the student did not complete the journal entry that was collected, the student will not get credit for the assignment.

**SSR: Sustained Silent Reading**

Sustained Silent Reading, or SSR, is designated time for students to read a novel (school appropriate) of their choice. The purpose of SSR is to encourage an appreciation of reading by allowing students to read material that they find interesting. Students who read for enjoyment usually are better readers and writers.

**Grading SSR**

* Teacher will award points for in-class participation. Absent students must write a 300 word summary.

**Novel Choice**

* Students will need to have their novel in class each day. Once a student finishes a novel, they need to get another one. Each student always needs a reading book in class, every day.
* Due to extremely limited Media Center hours, students will need to get their SSR novel on their own time. They can check a book out of the Media Center, a public library, or purchase a novel of their choice.

**Please sign the syllabus** indicating you have read and understand the classroom policies.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Print Student Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_