

2014 — 2015

7th Grade

Writing Workshop

Ms. Hanner | ahanner@spfk12.org | Room 303
Course Website: <http://hannerww.weebly.com/>



Welcome!

The goal of this course is to write, reflect, and discuss topics that relate to you as an individual, and to the world around you. We will accomplish this by using your Language Arts Concepts (Ethics, Perspective, Change, Identity, Power, and Awareness) to construct successful writing pieces.

We will be writing in a variety of forms in order to get your minds and pencils moving! We will work on spelling, grammar, vocabulary, and the writing process in general to ensure you are able to effectively communicate your thoughts and arguments on paper.

In order to establish a successful, safe, and engaged community, everyone will be responsible for participating in class by sharing his or her personal experiences, questions, thoughts, and ideas; remember, you have important knowledge to share with others! Together as a community of learners, we will maintain an environment founded on respect, diligence, and enthusiasm.

Expectations and Guidelines

You must always respect and abide by Park Middle School's policies and procedures (please refer to your student handbook).

Additionally, in our classroom, it will be your responsibility to:

- ✓ contribute to our positive learning environment
- ✓ be respectful of and courteous to every member of our class
- ✓ come to class on time and begin working on the Entrance Ticket
- ✓ listen to and follow all directions, asking any necessary questions
- ✓ complete all assignments on time and to the best of your ability
- ✓ independently obtain and complete any make-up work on time
- ✓ bring the following required materials to class each day*:
 - 1" 3-ring binder (to keep in classroom)
 - 5 binder tabs (to organize in-class biner)
 - composition notebook (to keep in classroom)
 - flash drive
 - pens and pencils

**Please see me if you have concerns about obtaining any materials.
I am more than willing to work with you and your specific needs.*

"I write because I don't know what I think until I read what I say." – Flannery O'Connor

Handing in Work

Formatting

All student work must be handed in on time with the following heading in the top left-hand corner:



Late Work

If a student chooses to hand in a **large writing task** after it is due, the student will receive 3 percent off each day it is late. Once the grade has depleted to 0, the student will be unable to make up the work. **Small writing tasks** will be deducted 50 percent one day past the deadline, and will be worth a 0 after that. I am gracious about extensions, so long as the student sees me at least 24 hours in advance.

Absentee Work

If a student has an excused absence from class, then he or she has the same number of days missed to make up the assignment. If absentee work is not made up within this time frame, I will assess the assignment based on late work penalties (above). Students are required to independently seek out what they've missed outside of our class time (i.e., before or after school, STAR, lunch, etc.)

Classroom Procedures

Entrance/Exit Tickets

Students will be presented with a daily Entrance Ticket upon entering the classroom with the intention of jumpstarting each day's agenda and objective. Additionally, when necessary, I will assign an Exit Ticket at the period's end in order to assess students' understanding and mastery of the day's lesson.

Mini Lessons

Mini Lessons will be conducted each week and will be centered on various important writing elements needed for students to complete the task on which they are working.

For example, if we are working on writing a persuasive letter and I feel that students would benefit from further clarification on applying thesis statements, I will hold a mini lesson. Mini Lessons will either include the entire class or small groups, depending on student needs.

Writer's Notebook

Students will maintain a Writer's Notebook throughout the duration of the course. All prewriting exercises and small writing assignments will be kept in this notebook.

Grading System

- 50%** *large writing tasks (final, published pieces)*
- 30%** *small writing tasks (drafts, notebook entries, etc.)*
- 20%** *class participation and preparedness (i.e., entrance/exit tickets, conferences, preparation of materials, etc.)*



Extra Help

Everyone has the opportunity to get a great grade in Writing Workshop this year. I encourage all students to seek me out for extra help at any point necessary. I am usually in my classroom after school. However, please let me know in advance if you would like to meet so that I can be sure I am available.

Can't stay after school? I check my email frequently, so please feel free to send me any questions and/or concerns regarding assignments. I will always give credit to those who put extra effort into their work.

Parent/Guardian Consent Form

Student must return this form and have *all* class materials by Monday, September 8th in order to receive credit toward his or her participation grade.

Child's Name: _____

Your Name: _____

Relationship to Child: _____

Your Phone Number: _____

Your Alternate Phone Number: _____

Your Email Address: _____

Best Time to Contact You: _____

*I have read and understand the policies and procedures
for Ms. Hanner's Writing Workshop course.*

Your Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____

*If you have any notes of concern or important information that I should know about your student, please list that information on the back of this page. It will remain confidential.