



Portland Public Schools
Middle Level
Syllabus Template

School Year 2011-12

Teacher: Allan Siegel		School: Mt. Tabor Middle School	
Subject: Language Arts	Course Title: 8 th Grade Language Arts	Grade Level(s): 8 th	
Is high school credit an option for this course? No			
Prerequisites: None			
Course description: Language Arts (writing, literature, public speaking)			
Priority Standards (optional in 2011):			
Identify and analyze development of themes conveyed through characters, action, and images.			
Writing for different purposes and to a specific audience or person, adjusting style and tone as necessary to engage the interest of the reader in multi-paragraph compositions			
Determine meanings of words using contextual and structural clues.			
Schedule of topics/units covered: 1) themes in literature 2) character analysis 3) using concise language 4) propaganda and advertising 5) narrative, expository, descriptive writing 6) poetry and song lyrics 7) public speaking 8) study of novel form			
Academic Vocabulary (optional in 2011):			

District adopted materials: Literature and the Language Arts (EMC 8 th grade), Mockingbird by Erskine (novel)
Supplemental resources: independent reading, Literature (Prentice Hall), media center
Differentiation/ accessibility strategies and support (TAG, ELL, SpEd, other): tiering, individual feedback on expectations and performance, substitute assignments, combining creative thinking with learning, adapting curriculum to accelerate critical thinking skills, modifying assignments and due dates to appropriate complexity, providing opportunities to reflect specific interests and talents, flexible groupings and partnering.
Final proficiencies: Read at or above grade level, or make significant progress toward grade level reading. Write fluently, with proficient use of conventions, organization, ideas and content and sentence fluency. Analyze works of literature. Read and evaluate informational texts to support research.
Essential skills to be taught or assessed: Read and comprehend : identifying bias Write clearly and accurately Listen actively and speak and present clearly Think critically, inferentially, and analytically Personal management and teamwork
Assessment/evaluation/grading policy: standards based assessment. Students are penalized one grade for late work
Behavioral expectations: no

Safety issues and requirements: no

Signature of instructor completing this form:
Allan Siegel

Administrator Approval:

By approving this syllabus the administrator verifies that

- a. the course code written on this form is accurate and that this code has been correctly placed into eSIS by the school's data clerk.*
- b. the teacher listed on the syllabus meets the endorsement requirements as set forth by ODE and NCLB.*
- c. the course meets the requirements of the District required core curriculum including standards.*
- d. the teacher is using District adopted materials or has been approved to use other resources.*