**Dear Student and Parent/Guardian,**

\***Language Arts/ELA8**

Welcome to 8th grade language arts! I am excited to be back at Cal Young for another year, and I am looking forward to leading classes this year. In 8th grade language arts, the focus is on the four main aspects of communication; reading, writing, listening, and speaking. This class will be exploring each area while also preparing for the annual Smarter Balance testing in the spring. In addition, we will be including a career research component in the spring. Overall, the academic standards and expectations for this class will be high and will be supported.

**\*Agenda Planners**

Students are expected to record all assignments and homework daily in their agenda planners. Those who are absent should copy the missed agenda(s) from the absence agenda kept on the TA desk in my classroom.

\***Assignments**

All classwork not finished during classtime becomes homework. Students are expected to finish all work by the due date given. Late work will not be accepted unless prearranged or due to an excused absence. Exceptions may be arranged for excused absences, medical, and other extreme circumstances. Any work assigned before a planned absence will be due the day your student returns to school. In addition, all students have on-going reading homework assignments called SSRs. The weekly SSR assignment requires them to read and write responses to questions each night as they read. An SSR assignment will be due every Wednesday during the first two trimesters at least. Students should expect to have at least five nights of reading homework every week. Students should read at least twenty minutes each night. In addition, students need to bring a choice reading book to class every day for quiet reading time at the start of class each day.

# \*Participation

Participation is essential to the learning process in any language arts classroom. Students are encouraged to volunteer in class and share their opinions, insights, and knowledge during discussions. Participation points can be gained or lost. Students can earn points for positive behavior and lose points for being off task, disruptive, or tardy. If a student loses three points in one day or is sent out of the classroom due to behavior, then I will fill out a referral form and call home. \* Please see the attached rule page.

# \*Time and Preparation

Students are expected to be in their seats, prepared, and ready to start learning when the bell rings. Materials needed are as follows: binder, notebook paper, pencils, correcting pen (red, green, or purple), highlighter, personal pencil sharpener, and an independent reading book.

# \*Rules

Students are expected to behave in ways that support their ability to learn, the ability of others to learn, and my ability to teach. Harassment, bullying, and ill treatment of others will not be tolerated. Neither cheating nor plagiarism will be tolerated either. If a student is caught cheating, he or she will receive a zero and will not be able to make up those points.

# \*Cell Phones:

# Please respect our learning and class time by not calling or texting your student during class hours. There is a copy of the bell schedule in your student’s agenda and also on the Cal Young website at <http://calyoung.4j.lane.edu> under the General Info tab at the top of the webpage.

# \*Contact

I encourage you to contact me via email anytime, and I will get back to you as soon as possible. Contact by phone is more difficult. Now that your student is an eigth grader, he or she will have more responsibility to advocate for himself or herself as an emerging adult. The eigth-grade year is the last year before high school, so I expect you and your student to communicate with each other about his or her progress in this class. However, questions or concerns about classroom content or student progress can be directed to me via email at [turner\_a@4j.lane.edu](mailto:turner_a@4j.lane.edu) or you may leave me a phone message at 790-6700. I am looking forward to a good year full of fun and progress.

Sincerely,

Alia Turner

CYMS

Please complete the back of this letter and return the signature page only. Keep the font page for reference 🡪

***Classroom Rules***

1. Go to class every day. Regular attendance is vital to success.
2. Bring a reading book every day.
3. Turn your cell off, all the way, **and** put it away **before** entering the classroom.
4. Cell phones are prohibited from receiving or sending text messages during class (If there is an emergency/situation, speak with me before class or wait until the office sends word).
5. Enter the classroom quietly (This is a place for learning not socializing).
6. Arrive to class and be in your seat before the bell rings (You will be marked late if you are not in you seat when the bell rings.
7. Be prepared: Have your supplies out and ready for class.
8. Read the day’s agenda and any message on the screen.
9. Listen to your teacher.
10. “Teacher time (speaking) is quiet time (students).”
11. Follow the teacher’s classroom rules and directions.
12. Raise your hand for permission to speak.
13. Listen to speakers. Don’t interupt or disrupt others.
14. Don’t touch others or others’ property. Hands and feet to yourself.
15. Throwing objects is not safe and a violation of 4j policy.
16. Don’t pass notes.
17. Don’t sleep in class.
18. Do your best and challenge yourself

\* Every student has the right to an education. A student does not have the right to deny another student(s) from this objective. Following these classroom rules will help to create a healthy learning environment for all. Please use your talents and skills to further your own learning and that of others.

ELA8 2019/2020

Student Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Class Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Please help me gather some vital communication information by reading the letter on the frront page and the rules on the back. Then, fill out the rest of this sheet, and send it back with your student. This is a graded assignment.

Parent/Adult Contact(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Adult Contact Phone Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Adult Email Contact Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**\*Movie Permission Form**

Please circle yes if your son or daughter may participate by watching some or all of the following PG-13 movies throughout this school year:

Freedom Writers (PG-13) YES NO

The Outsiders (PG-13) YES NO

Nightjohn (PG-13) YES NO

The Boy In the Striped Pajamas (PG-13) YES NO

The Help (PG 13) YES NO

\* Is there anything I should know about your student?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

My son/daughter gave me this message. I read both pages, and I am returning this so that they get points for being a responsible student!

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

ELA8 Parent Letter ANT 2019/2020