

LMS EVENING WITH HONORS

English 1 Honors-Mrs. Jenny Bumgarner and Mrs. Brie Williams

Even eagles need a push...



How did our students feel this past August?

- ◆ “I felt a little overwhelmed at the beginning. I was in a higher level class in 7th grade, and it was a breeze for me. I expected the same thing for this year. I was very mistaken.”
- ◆ “At the beginning of the year, I found this class quite challenging. It was a dramatic step up from what I was used to.”
- ◆ “I quickly realized that this class was going to be a lot harder than I had expected. And that I was going to have to work a lot harder than I was used to to get grades that I had been getting before.”



How did our students feel this past August?

- ◆ “ I got a bad grade on my first test. I learned that I got a bad grade because my writing was insufficient, not because I hadn’ t read the book. We all had to learn how to write correctly, and then we were fine.”
- ◆ “At first my grade was low, because I didn’ t put in the effort needed for this class, but then after about a month, I realized it wasn’ t getting any easier and if I wanted a good grade I was going to have to work for it. It was a major wake up call for, I believe, a lot of the 8th graders.”



How did our students feel this past August?

- ◆ “My grade was low because I wasn’t taking it seriously, and when I found out that this could affect the college that I could get into, then I started to work really hard to keep up with things.”
- ◆ “At the beginning of this year, I was frustrated because my grade was much lower than in the past. However, I kept trying, and I eventually understood the material. It scared me into working hard. Consequently, my grade rose, and English wasn’t even what I had to worry about any more!”



How do our students feel now?

- ◆ “ I have learned so much more than I ever have in English. I felt like I was still writing like I did in third grade when I came in here, but now I feel prepared for high school.”
- ◆ “I love this class. I’ ve learned a lot, especially from my mistakes.”
- ◆ “This class, in my opinion, is the most important class I’ ve taken in my whole life to help me prepare for the future. It helped me to write correctly, read language I wasn’ t familiar with and understand it, and to understand that life isn’ t always easy, but when you work hard, it sure does pay off.”



What have they learned?

- ◆ “Mainly, this class helped me learn how to manage my time and that I can no longer wait until the night before it is due to finish it.”
- ◆ “I know how important it is for someone to read great works such as *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and *Romeo and Juliet*.”
- ◆ “I learned how to write and get my point across without confusion.”
- ◆ “You need to read between the lines because if you don’ t, you might miss the smallest but most important details.”
- ◆ “I learned how to think deeply about what I’ m reading and actually use it in my writing.”
- ◆ “I learned grammar rules and how important parts of the sentence can be.”



What have they learned?

- ◆ “My writing style has improved. I’m now able to explain my main idea more effectively and can better describe how the example (quote) correlates with the point through the explanation. I’m also able to tell about what the reader is able to understand more fully through a variety of examples in texts. Finally, I have learned how to correctly cite evidence that comes from texts.”
- ◆ “I learned that, when you think you’ve done your best, the teacher always has something to correct you on to make it better, so don’t give up.”



What does it mean to be an honors student?

- ◆ Organized—having a sense of time management and an awareness of the need to prioritize
- ◆ Committed to learning and curious about a wide variety of topics
- ◆ Confident they can do the work, even if they are uneasy at first about a class, an assignment, or a teacher
- ◆ Willing to do the work, even if it is challenging
- ◆ Willing to seek help (from teachers, peers, tutors)
- ◆ Willing to acknowledge and tolerate risk
- ◆ Willing to accept and respond to constructive criticism
- ◆ Critical thinkers, eager to ask questions and listen to others
- ◆ Problem solvers

Most importantly, though...

- ◆ “What determines whether individuals are gifted or not is not what they *are* but what they *do*.”
- ◆ Subotnik, Olszewski-Kubilius, & Worrell “A Proposed Direction Forward for Gifted Education Based on Psychological Science.” Oct. 2012 Gifted Quarterly. 180. Print

Growth Mindset

- ◆ Carol Dweck (2006) described a belief system that asserts that intelligence is a malleable quality and can be developed-- a growth mindset.
- ◆ In contrast, a fixed mindset is a belief system that suggests that a person has a predetermined amount of intelligence, skills, or talents.
- ◆ Adapted from Ricci, Mary Kay. *Mindsets in the Classroom*. Waco, Texas: Prufrock Press. 2013. Print.
- ◆ Growth Mindset vs. Fixed Mindset

Growth Mindset

- ◆ Learners with a *growth mindset* believe they can learn just about anything. It might take some *struggle* and some *failure*, but they understand that with *effort* and *perseverance*, they can succeed.
- ◆ Educators with a *growth mindset* believe that with *effort* and *hard work* from the learner, all students can demonstrate significant growth, and therefore, all students deserve opportunities for *challenge*.
- ◆ Adapted from Ricci, Mary Cay. *Mindsets in the Classroom*. Waco, Texas: Prufrock Press. 2013. Print.

Elements of Study

◆ TEXTS

- ◆ *The Last Book in the Universe*- Rodman Philbrick
- ◆ *the Odyssey*- Homer
- ◆ *Romeo and Juliet*- William Shakespeare
- ◆ *To Kill a Mockingbird*- Harper Lee
- ◆ *The Giver*- Lois Lowry
- ◆ Selected short stories, poetry, informational/ nonfiction texts

◆ BIG IDEAS

- ◆ Courage
- ◆ Sacrifice
- ◆ Empathy

◆ COMPOSITION

- ◆ Narratives
- ◆ Literary Analysis
- ◆ Expository writing
- ◆ Comparison of multiple texts
- ◆ Arguments
- ◆ Poetry

What is different about high school honors credit?

- ◆ Minimum attendance requirements must be met (10 or fewer absences) in order to receive high school credit.
- ◆ This class factors into the high school GPA and can affect the student's college admission applications.
- ◆ As this is an honors-level course, the grade is converted according to the 5.0 weighted grading scale.
- ◆ The South Carolina End of Course Examination is given to all students upon completion of English 1. This score comprises 20% of the student's final average in the course.

Summer Reading

- ◆ lexingtonmiddlesummerreading.weebly.com