

Bella Vista Middle School

# 8th Grade Language Arts and Social Science

Mr. Tapie

## *Language Arts*

The goal of the English Language Arts (ELA) program is to enable each student, within the domains of our Common Core Standards to become a better reader, speaker, writer, and listener.

Students will work both individually and cooperatively to find deeper meaning in texts and to convey meaning to others both in written and verbal expression. Above all, the goal of our program is to help students discover the joy of language.

**Textbook:** McGraw Hill: StudySync Online

## *Social Science (US History)*

Eighth grade American history covers the period from the framing of the Constitution up to World War I. Some of the essential areas are: the Revolution, the Constitution, the Jefferson Era, National and Regional Growth, the Jackson Era, Manifest Destiny, the Growth of the West, the Civil War, and Reconstruction.

**Textbook:** McGraw Hill: United States History and Geography - Growth and Conflict

**Computer and Technology Component:** Students will utilize the above online textbooks, hardcover books and [Google Classroom](#) for assignments. Access to Chromebooks *in the classroom* will be provided.

### **A list of suggested supplies:**

Planner (hard copy or electronic version - Google Calendar)  
Earbuds  
Loose leaf, college notebook paper  
Spiral bound notebook  
Pencils with erasers  
Pens - red and black ink  
Highlighters - multiple colors  
Chapter book of choice for Silent Sustained Reading (S.S.R.)

### **Classroom Policies and Expectations**

1. Respect others and school property.
2. Maintain personal space.
3. Help create a positive environment with positive and supportive dialogue.
4. No food, drinks, gum, or candy. Water is allowed.
5. Cell phones must be off and put away as well as earbuds.
6. Be prepared before the bell rings. Bring all materials.

## Computer Use

1. Use the computers to promote and support your learning in a positive and productive manner.
2. Do not damage, deface, or alter the computers.
3. Carry the computers with two hands and the screens closed.
4. Stay on designated web pages or assigned sites as determined by the teacher.
5. Posting or displaying inappropriate material will result in an office referral.
6. Report any damage immediately.

## Progressive Consequences

Below is the progression of our classroom discipline:

1. In class verbal reminder
2. After class conference
3. Parent contact
4. Office referral and parent contact

\*\* Some situations may result in an immediate office referral.

## Homework

The majority of assignments are **not** nightly tasks due the next day. Instead, they are meant to be worked on over a period of time. This allows for students to learn to budget their time and still enjoy a life outside of school. Assignments consist of, but not limited to; essays, projects, studying, and culminating tasks. Please check your student's [Google Classroom Account](#) for up-to-date assignment and task listing. Likewise, refer to the calendar on the site for due dates as well.

## Weighted Grading Scale

Language arts **does** have weighted categories. They are as follows:

- Common District Benchmark Assessments (5%)
- Classroom Assessments, Writing, and Projects (95%)
  - Points assigned will vary
  - Amount of points will determine its weight

Social Science **does not** have weighted categories. Each category is weighted equally.

- Classroom Assessments, Writing, and Projects
  - Points assigned will vary
  - Amount of points will determine its weight

## Grading

100 - 97	A+	96 - 93	A	92 - 90	A-
89 - 87	B+	86 - 83	B	82 - 80	B-
79 - 77	C+	76 - 73	C	72 - 70	C-
69 - 67	D+	66 - 63	D	62 - 60	D-
59 - 0	F				

## Resubmissions

Students will have the opportunity to resubmit certain assignments as determined by Mr. Tapie. These assignments will be determined as the year goes. **NOT ALL** written work may be resubmitted. Students will be notified when an assignment may be resubmitted.

Before students resubmit designated written work, they must meet the following criteria:

1. Original assignment was turned in on time.
2. Parent or guardian must email me noting the score/grade has been reviewed with the student at home or sign the original document.
3. Re-submissions **MUST** be within one week of the assignment scored, returned, and entered in the grading system.

## Assessment Retakes

At this time, **NO** assessment/test/quiz retakes will be given.

## Incomplete, Late, or Missing Work

Students will have the opportunity to turn in incomplete, late, or missing work within three days with no point reduction. After three days, points will be deducted as appropriate and per Mr. Tapie's discretion.

Please sign below acknowledging that you have read the above information.

Student Signature:	Date:
Parent Signature:	Date: