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***8th Grade ELAR Course Syllabus***

***2019-2020 School Year***

***Teacher:*** Mrs. D. B. Rojas

***E-mail:*** dbrojas@bisd.us

***Room:*** 102

***Conference Hours: 9:24-10:05 a.m.***

***Weebly: dbrojas.weebly.com***

***Course Description:***

***The ELAR course engages students in becoming skilled readers and effective communicators through writing and strengthens reading fluency and comprehension skills through the guided analysis of multiple reading and writing genres. The reading activities completed in this course makes students aware of the interactions among author’s purposes and their audience’s expectations as well as the conventions in writing.***

Students will be expected to:

* Learn, analyze, synthesize, and manipulate knowledge and skills; think critically
* Budget time effectively and efficiently; expect homework daily per course;
* Develop effective study skills;
* Utilize community and industry resources;
* Develop multi-media and oral presentation skills;
* Maintain a passing grade. (Honors maintain a minimum of 85 average)

***They will study the following during the school year:***

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| **1st Six Weeks*** *Personal Narrative*
* *Realistic fiction*
* *Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement*
* *Literary Elements*
* *Figurative Language*
* *Poetry*
 | **2nd Six Weeks*** *Informational Text*
* *Drama*
* *Authors Purpose*
 | **3rd Six Weeks*** *Argumentative*
* *Rhetorical Devices*
* *Situational Irony*
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| **4th Six Weeks*** *Informative Text*
* *Science Fiction*
* *Sentence Structure*
* *Figurative Language*
 | **5th Six Weeks*** *Genre Review*
* *STAAR Review*

 | **6th Six Weeks*** *Analysis of Setting*
* *Character Analysis*
* *Edit Drafts*
* *Commas and Semi-solons*
* *Imagery*
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***The above represents a projected pattern of instruction. It may vary depending on the instructional needs of the students in the individual class periods.***

***Essential Course Outcomes:***

Upon successful completion of the ELAR course, students will be able to do the following:

* Analyze a variety of texts such as fiction, expository, persuasive, procedural, informational, and nonfiction.
* Acquire and apply an understanding of media literacy and its effects upon texts of various genres.
* Identify characteristics of various genres of texts as well as understand the impact of author’s purpose and style upon each.
* Create and sustain argument based on readings, and/or personal experience.
* Read and write for a variety of purposes.

***Student Responsibilities:***

* Students are expected to be in their assigned seats and prepared to work when the bell rings.
* Students are expected to bring all appropriate materials and required text to class each day.
* Students are expected to complete all assignments, projects and all other class work in a timely manner.
* Students absent on the due date of an assignment are responsible for submitting the work in a timely manner.
* Students are expected to adhere to classroom, campus and district rules, procedures, and policies.

***Grading Policy:***

Each six weeks grade will reflect the academic progress of the student and will be determined as follow:

* 40% daily work
* 60 % tests

***Semester Test:***

The Semester Test, the final test given at the end of each semester, will be a comprehensive examination covering the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) prescribed by the state and district for the entire semester. The final examination will count one-fourth (1/4) of the total semester grade.

***Make –Up Work:***

* The student will be given the same number of days as the number of days he/she was absent to turn in the work.
* A student must make arrangements for make-up work on the day he/she returns to school.
* Students absent only on a test day will be expected to take it upon return. If any student has been absent the day prior to an announced test and if nothing new has been covered, the student will be expected to take the test at the regularly scheduled time. If the student has been absent two or more days, the student will immediately make arrangements with the teacher for the make-up tests.
* Any student who does not appear for a prearranged make-up test or does not meet his prearranged due date for other work may receive zero (0) on that test or work.
* Any student missing work due to participation in extracurricular activities must make arrangements with the teacher for work that will be missed **prior** to the absence.

***Late Work Policy:***

Late work for daily assignments will be accepted with a deduction of ten (10) grade points, per day it is late.

* Assignments are considered late any time after they have been collected in class.

***Academic Dishonesty/Cheating:***

***EIA Local:***

*A student found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to grade penalties on assignments or tests and disciplinary penalties in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. Academic dishonesty includes cheating or copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. The penalty for cheating will be a zero for work involved and the student will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action in cheating offenses. All students involved will be subject to disciplinary action. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty shall be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or another supervising professional employee, taking into consideration written materials, observation, or information from students.*

1. Cheating is interpreted as a procedure which involves the unauthorized giving or receiving help, offering or seeking aid, or the use of material prepared in advance for use on an assignment/assessment. Cheating also involves the use of electronic devices, books, or notes in any form being used during an examination without the permission of the teacher. Retesting will not be allowed in this situation.

2. Plagiarism consists of representing another person’s ideas or writings as one’s own, including but not limited to cutting and pasting from Internet sources. Plagiarism will be considered cheating, and is subject to EIA (Local).

3. If a student cheats on any part of a test and/or assignment given in parts, he will receive a zero(s) only in the part where the cheating occurred.

4. All students involved in academic dishonesty may be subject to disciplinary action as stipulated in the EIA (Local) and BISD Student Code of Conduct. A teacher that determines the student has violated the academic dishonesty policy is required to file a discipline referral and must notify the child’s parents or legal guardians of the academic dishonesty.

5. Involvement in academic dishonesty may affect a student’s eligibility for student honors, student leadership positions, and membership in some student organizations. A discipline consequence may be assigned to a student found guilty of cheating.