**7th Grade English Language Arts** 

Mark Donnelly

B.A. Political Science (University of Michigan-Flint)

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Middle School Endorsements in Language Arts and Social Studies

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**Readers’ Workshop/ Genre Studies** (Reading, Writing, Speaking, Listening)

* Mystery
* Poetry (verse novel)
* Historical Fiction/First Person Narrative
* Informational Texts

Students will meet with me in small, guided reading groups throughout the year. These groups are dynamic and are based on students’ comprehension strengths.

**Writer’s Workshop**

* Persuasive essay
* Writing to inform
* Personal Narrative essay
* Guided Reading response essays
* Grammar Study
* Vocabulary Study (Word Wall Work)

**Classroom Rules**

Treat others, as you want them to treat you.

Be Responsible, Respectful, Safe and Caring

Expectations will be developed by the classes

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**Feedback/PowerSchool**

Your student’s work will be graded using a 4-point rubric. Grades will be based on specific learning targets. These learning targets come from the state and national standards and are represented as “I can” statements. The score in PowerSchool reflects your student’s *current* progress towards mastering the learning target.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Rubric Score** | **Language** | **Grade** |
| 4 | Got it! | A |
| 3 | Almost There | B |
| 2 | Moving in the Right Direction | C |
| 1 | Just Getting Started | D |
| 0 / “m” | Missing Work, No Evidence Submitted | E |

Please know that your child may **re-take or re-do many of the assignments/tests** as he/she works towards mastering a learning target. To retake a test or re-do an assignment, the student must complete a re-do form and have it signed by you. The student will be required to do an additional learning activity and/or meet with me to receive help. When a student re-takes an assessment, the re-take will be noted in PowerSchool. Additionally, you will notice that some assignments will be displayed in a light grey color. This means the assignment was not included in the calculation of the final grade.

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**Late Work**

No points will be deducted from the assignment if is turned in late. However, in order to help students become more responsible and learn to turn work in on time, they must complete the **Late Work Submission Form** in order to receive credit. This form can be downloaded from my website.

**Absences**

Upon returning to school following an absence, it is the student’s responsibility to contact a fellow student or the teacher to request make-up work. The contact should be made on the day the student returns to school. The student will get the same amount of days he/she was absent to complete the work.

**Leaving Class**

Students are expected to be present for the entire class so they do not miss learning opportunities. Bathroom breaks, drinks of water, or gathering things from a locker should be taken care of during passing time. However, “emergencies” do happen. Students are allowed to leave the class with a signed pass, three times per quarter. On the fourth (and beyond) times, the student will still be allowed to leave. However, the consequence will be a lunch detention. *(This rule does not apply to students who have a documented medical reason to leave the class.)*

**Communication**

* Feel free to email me anytime if you have concerns or questions. **donnellyma@aaps.k12.mi.us.**
* Weekly lesson plans, study sheets, and other helpful information will be posted on my web site.

**Website address:** www.donnellyma.weebly.com

I look forward to working with you to help your child be successful (and happy) this year.