**7th Grade English Language Arts**

Teacher: Mrs. Gough

E-mail: agough@lsps.org Phone Number: 586-285-8845

Weebly: goughkms.weebly.com

**Course Content:** The following units will be covered in this year’s Language Arts classes: Writer’s Notebooks, Independent Reading, Argument Paragraph Writing, Narrative Reading, Literary Essay Writing, Informational Reading, Information Essay Writing, Argument Essay Writing, Daily Oral Language, Articles of the Week, and Frayer Vocabulary Models.

**Kennedy Middle School Parent-Student Handbook:** Please refer to this book (located on the Kennedy Middle School website) for attendance policy (tardy, absence, etc.) and student code of conduct (including dress code and electronic restrictions), disciplinary actions, and general school information. I will follow these rules, policies, and guidelines without exceptions.

**Teacher Contact/ Blog:** I can be reached by phone at 586-285-8845 or e-mail at agough@lsps.org

My Weebly site is updated daily to reflect the daily agenda and objectives, homework, quizzes, tests, projects, or any other assignment for the class. Copies of all assignments will also be available on the Weebly to print at your convenience.

[goughkms.weebly.com](https://bb91.misd.net)

**Materials needed:**

* **Pack of lined notebook paper (kept or given to teacher)**
* **GREEN Duo-tang Folder or binder**
* **GREEN bound or spiral notebook**
* **1 box of pencils**
* **Red/ Green pens**
* **Black/ Blue pens**
* **Highlighters (Multiple colors)**
* **Box of Kleenex**
* **Clorox Wipes**
* **1 of the following: Box of crayons, pack of colored pencils, or a box of colored markers.**

**ZAP:**

Students are expected to turn all work in to the teacher on time. We encourage every student to turn in each assignment to provide them with the best opportunity to pass each class.

If a student does not turn in an assignment on time, they will be Zapped. This will allow each student two additional days to receive credit on each assignment. They will be asked to go to the lunch study hall to complete the assignment with support from our Intervention Specialist. The students will be asked to turn in all work before this deadline. If a student fails to turn in an assignment after two days, they will be given a consequence. If a student reaches more than 10 ZAPS over the course of one trimester, they will be notified that they are no longer invited to the lunch study hall program. They will also be assigned an Intervention Specialist to help them along the way. Please discuss with your son/daughter the importance of every assignment.

**\*\*\*7th Grade: ZAP will run for the first trimester, if Zapped 1st trimester students will receive 20% off of their final score on the assignment. Full responsibility for completing work and handing it in is put on student/parent (starting 2nd semester).**

Consequences for work not turned in:

• 1-3 assignments: Parent letter

• 4-6 assignments: Detention - before school, lunch, or after school depending on staff availability.

• 7-9 assignments: In School Suspensions

• 10 or more assignments: Out of School Suspensions. Assigned Intervention Specialist.

Please remember these are for ZAP’s not being turned in. This is not for being Zapped.

**Make-Up Work:** Any time you are absent, it is your responsibility to get the make-up work. If you are absent the day of a test or quiz and you knew about the test/ quiz before your absence, you will be asked to make it up the day you return. Make-up work is only allowed for excused absences. Your failure to request missed assignments or to schedule a make-up will result in a grade of Zero. Again, your grade is your responsibility! Place all absent work in the absent drawer and write ABSENT on the top otherwise it will be marked late.

**No-name Policy**: Students must write their names on every assignment. If an assignment does not have a name on it, it will be placed in the recycle bin. Students can retrieve the work if it is still in the classroom and receive half credit for the assignment during the first trimester. For 2nd and 3rd trimester work with no name will be placed in the recycle bin and a zero will be given in the grade book. There are no exceptions. It is a student’s responsibility to write their name on every assignment.

**Weighted grades:**

* 30% Writing Assessments (Focus questions, essays, Writer’s Notebooks, end of unit writing assessments)
* 30% Reading Assessments (Comprehension questions, comprehension quizzes, close and critical readings, NewsELA, informational texts, genre units, figurative language, NWEA Reading Assessment)
* 20% Language Assessments (Roots, affixes, vocabulary, grammar, punctuation, spelling, warm-ups)
* 10% Project-Based Learning
* 10% Final Trimester Assessment

**Character Grades:**

At KMS we feel that it is critically important to represent student learning and academic achievement and behavior or character as equally important but separate reporting measures. While students will be given an academic grade, students will also be given Character Grades from each teacher. These grades will be given on a regular basis for the following areas in the Power School grade book.

• Participation

• Initiative

• Respect

Students will be given a score in each of these three areas using one of the following indicators: M = Meets Standard

P = Progressing Towards Standard

N = Not Meeting Standards

Students who have been given an “N” mark for more than 25% (4 or more) of their classes in the combined total of grades given in the Character Grades area will be considered ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities including field trips and end of year activities. Character Grades eligibility will function in the same way as academic eligibility and will run as needed, per grade level.

**Tardy Policy:**

1. The classroom door will be locked.
2. You should report to a tardy station.
3. **QUIETLY** report to your class. If the door is locked, wait quietly in the hallway and (as soon as I am able) I will unlock the door for you. **Do Not knock and/or bang on my door**
4. **QUIETLY** enter the classroom and place your tardy admit slip on Mrs. Gough’s desk.
5. Begin today’s warm up activity.

Consequences for arriving late to your classes…

* 1-5 tardies equals a warning
* 5th tardy will result in a letter home notifying the parents
* 6-7 will equal a detention served before school, lunch time, or after school
* Tardies 8-9 will equal 2 detentions and the loss of trimester events put on by grade levels at the end of each trimester
* 10 or more tardies will lead to an in school suspension with the loss of any field trips, trimester events, and any after school activities

**Technology:**

I will use technology as the number one source of communication in the classroom. Please take the time to look over theses websites and become familiar with them as they will be used regularly.

 #Requires a separate login for parents/ \*Means they are a free app on your android/ iPhone.

**\*Weebly:** Will be used for the daily happenings in the classroom. Check on a regular basis for updated agendas and expectations. Goughkms.weebly.com

**\*#Remind101 (for Mrs. Gough’s Classroom):** [www.remind.com](http://www.remind.com) (Students will be asked to sign up, for free, to receive reminders via e-mail or text from me, parents are also encouraged to sign up to receive these reminders) Follow directions below:

If you have a smartphone, get push notifications. On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link: rmd.at/hf44db Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You’ll be prompted to download the mobile app.

If you don’t have a smartphone, get text notifications. Text the message @hf44db to the number 81010.

**\*YouTube:** [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) Used for uploading videos made in class or educational videos that are being used in the classroom.

**\*TeacherTube**: [www.teachertube.com](http://www.teachertube.com) Used for uploading videos made in class or education videos that are being used in the classroom.

**\*#PowerSchool:** Grades will be updated weekly. Your user-id and password are provided through the main office. (Please verify to make sure your current email address and phone number are updated in PowerSchool, I will send emails using the addresses found in PowerSchool)