



School Year/Semester 2020-2021

Course Name	GRADE EIGHT ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	Course Code	23.0131000
School Name	Chapel Hill Middle School	Teacher Name	Caroline McLeod
School Phone Number	(678) 676-8502	Teacher Email	Caroline_Mcleod@dekalbschoolsga.org
School Website	www.chapelhillms.dekalb.k12.ga.us	Teacher Website	https://missmcleod.weebly.com

Course Description

Students will use the Georgia Standards of Excellence curriculum. The main implementation tool used for instruction will be McDougal Littell’s Literature. This series is aligned with the standards and is inclusive of the necessary performance elements needed for student mastery. Each day, students will be exposed to a rigorous curriculum in which they will work towards gaining an enduring understanding through skills and strategies.

Curriculum Overview

The following academic concepts will be covered. **THIS IS ONLY A GUIDE AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.**

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW	
Unit 1 – PERSEVERANCE (Narrative)	ELAGSE8RL 2, ELAGSE8RI 3, ELAGSE8W 3a, b, d, ELAGSE8RL 1, ELAGSE8RL 3, ELAGSE8RL 4, ELAGSE8RL 6, ELAGSE8RI 5, ELAGSESL 1, ELAGSE8W 4, ELAGSE8W 5, ELAGSE8W 6, ELAGSE8L 2
Unit 2– FREEDOM, OBSTACLES, and CHALLENGES (Informational/Explanatory)	ELAGSE8RI 2, ELAGSE8RI 6, ELAGSE8W 2 a,b,f, ELAGSE8SL 4, ELAGSE8RI 1, ELAGSE8RI 3, ELAGSE8RI 5, ELAGSE8RI 7, ELAGSE8RI 8, ELAGSE8W 2 c, d, e, ELAGSE8W 4, ELAGSE8W 5, ELAGSE8W 6, ELAGSE8W 7, ELAGSE8L 2, ELAGSE8SL 5
Unit 3 – HEROES vs. VILLAINS (Argumentative)	ELAGSE8RI 8, ELAGSE8W 1, ELAGSE8RI 1, ELAGSE8R1 3, ELAGSE8RI 4, ELAGSE8RI 6, ELAGSE8RI 9, ELAGSE8W 9, ELAGSE8SL 1
Unit 4– THE REAL STORY (Narrative)	ELAGSE8RL 7, ELAGSE8RL 9, ELAGSE8W 4, ELAGSE8RL 1, ELAGSE8RL 2, ELAGSE8RL 3, ELAGSE8RL 4, ELAGSE8W 3a

BOARD-APPROVED INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Title	McDougal Littell Literature textbook
ISBN	ISBN-13: 978-0812380460 ISBN-10: 0812380460
Replacement Cost	\$61
Online book and/or resources	www.classzone.com
Online student access code (school specific)	Google classroom resources

GRADING SYSTEM: The DeKalb County School District believes that the most important assessment of student learning shall be conducted by the teachers as they observe and evaluate students in the context of ongoing classroom instruction. A variety of approaches, methodologies, and resources shall be used to deliver educational services and to maximize each student’s opportunity to succeed. Teachers shall evaluate student progress, report grades that represent the student’s academic achievement, and communicate official academic progress to students and parents in a timely manner through the electronic grading portal. **See Board Policy IHA.**

GRADING CATEGORIES	*GRADE PROTOCOL		
Formative and Diagnostic Assessments – 0%	A	90 – 100	~ P (pass)
Assessment Tasks (Skills & Homework) – 25%	B	80 – 89	
Classwork (Guided, Independent, and Group Practice) – 45%	C	71 – 79	
Quizzes, Tests, and Projects – 30%	D	70	
	F	Below 70.	~ F (fail)

Notes:

*English Learners (ELs) must not receive numerical or letter grades for the core content areas in elementary and middle school during their first year of language development. A grade of CS or CU must be assigned. This rule may be extended beyond the first year with approval from the EL Studies Program. English Learners must receive a grade for ESOL courses.

~Elementary schools will utilize P (pass) and F (fail) in Health/Physical Education, Music, World Languages, Visual Arts and Performing Arts.

DISTRICT EXPECTATIONS FOR SUCCESS	
STUDENT PROGRESS	Semester progress reports shall be issued four and a half, nine and thirteen and a half weeks into each semester. The progress of students shall be evaluated frequently and plans shall be generated to remediate deficiencies as they are discovered. Plans shall include appropriate interventions designed to meet the needs of the students. See Board Policy IH.
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY	Students will not engage in an act of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, providing false information, falsifying school records, forging signatures, or using an unauthorized computer user ID or password. See the Code of Student Conduct - Student Rights and Responsibilities and Character Development Handbook.
HOMEWORK	Homework assignments should be meaningful and should be an application or adaptation of a classroom experience. Homework is at all times an extension of the teaching/learning experience. It should be considered the possession of the student and should be collected, evaluated and returned to the students. See Board Policy IHB.
MAKE-UP WORK DUE TO ABSENCES	When a student is absent because of a legal reason as defined by Georgia law or when the absence is apparently beyond the control of the student, the student shall be given an opportunity to earn grade(s) for those days absent. Make-up work must be completed within the designated time allotted. See Board Policy IHEA.
SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS FOR SUCCESS	
CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS	Students are expected to adhere to the DCSS Student Code of Conduct, as well as, specific class rules. Success in class is dependent upon student preparedness. Students are expected to be on time to class. Students are expected to show respect and courtesy to all people in the class at all times. Cheating of any kind will result in a grade of zero. This includes, but is not limited to, cheat sheets,

	plagiarism, or talking during a quiz/test. Consequences for noncompliance with these expectations will result in a verbal warning, morning detention, parent contact, and written referral to the assistant principal. Any extreme, repetitious, or violent behavior will immediately result in a referral to the assistant principal and a request for a team conference with parent will be initiated.
MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES	Writing utensils, Notebook paper, Ear phones, Notebook.
EXTRA HELP	Tutorials are on Tuesday's and Thursday's from 2:00pm-3:00pm.
PARENTS AS PARTNERS	Parents please view my website to stay informed of all class activities and assignments.

PLEASE SIGN BELOW AND RETURN.

I have read the syllabus.

Student

Signature_____

Parent/Guardian

Signature_____

Date_____

Additional information to support continued contact:

Information	Parent/Guardian
Day Time Phone Number	
Cellular Phone Number	
Home Phone Number	
Email Address	