**Public Speaking and Debate: Grade 12 2017-18**

**Eden Jr./Sr. High School Mr. Archabald**  *carchabald@edencsd.org*

The crux of this course will be the study of speaking clearly and confidently in different public forums. Through the use of daily activities and weekly assignments students will strive to develop the skills needed to communicate effectively to an audience. Debate and the preparation of an argument will also be looked at in great detail.

This course is designed to prepare students for the expectations they must meet in college course work. Reading, note taking (independently and in-class), and study are essential for success in this course.

***Texts and Materials***

Students will use the following texts: *Speech: Exploring Communication Fourth Edition*

***Teacher Expectations***

1. Students will do all required reading and will take notes on reading assignments.

2. Students will do all homework assignments before coming to class.

3. Students will come prepared with comments and questions based on the reading and will participate fully in class discussions and activities.

4. Students will have a notebook and writing utensil each class period. The notebook is to be open on the desk as soon as class starts so students are ready to take notes based on discussion throughout the period. In most sessions, notes are not limited to copying what is written by the teacher.

5. Students will be punctual to class and in completing all projects and assignments.

6. Students will complete assignments, tests, notes, etc. missed due to absence. This shall be done by the following class period. **Extra teacher assistance is available during advisement and other times. If students are struggling with an assignment it is the students shared responsibility to communicate that to the teacher. Teacher will not realize the extent to which student is struggling until due date of assignment unless student is proactive and asks for help. Help is always available for students who need it.**

7. Students will not consume food or beverages in the classroom.

8. Students will have required materials with them each day.

9. Students will treat one another and the teacher with courtesy and respect and can expect to be treated in a like manner

***Grading***

Several speeches and presentations will be reflected in final grade. A class participation grade in each quarter will be factored in to grade. A debate will be assigned in the second quarter. *No assignment will be accepted more than three days late, and each late day (school attendance days, not class days) will result in a 10% deduction.*

As per school policy, when calculating the final grade, each quarter will be worth 40%, and the final exam will be worth 20%.

***Exemptions:***

Students who achieve a grade of 90% or higher for the semester and have neither cut class nor been excessively tardy and have the teacher’s approval (based on work ethic, attitude, and participation) *will be exempt from the final exam*. Each quarter will then be worth 50% of the final grade.

***Class Attendance:***

Obviously, students are expected to be on time for class each day and to never cut class. In addition to disciplinary action by the schools administration, any student who cuts class will receive a zero for all work missed that day. School policy will be followed. More than five absences will result in a loss of credit for the course. Passbooks will be signed twice in a given month for tardiness; any tardy after that will receive school detention. Students must have passbooks (intact) every day. Any tests missed due to legitimate absence from school must be made up within two school days either during advisement, lunch, or after school.

***Cheating:***

Students have ample opportunities to succeed, and extra assistance is available from the instructor. Cheating will not be tolerated. A zero will be earned on any assignment or test that was cheated on. A call home will be made. If d duplicate assignments are received, both parties will earn a zero regardless of who did the original work.

***Goals:***

It is also anticipated that this course will be a positive preparation for the type of coursework and responsibility expected at the college level. Studying speech will develop in students an increased vocabulary, better reading (including critical and analytical skills) and a strong awareness of power contained in a delivering a well organized and coherent message in a public form.

***Teacher Availability:***

The instructor is available to parents by phone (992-3600) or e-mail

(carchabald@edencsd.org.) He is available to students after school and during his free period. Please contact me with any concerns. If your son or daughter is not performing up to your standards as evidenced by grade at end of quarter mark or 5 week report *please email me*.

THE PLEDGE:   I shall strive to create a positive supportive learning environment and educational experience for all students and pledge to respect each of my students as a unique person, not a test score.

Public Speaking

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*I have read and agree to abide by the course expectations for public speaking*

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_