

## **LVUSD Middle School Honors Criteria for English Language Arts 6-7-8**

Honors courses are provided for highly advanced academic students who have consistently demonstrated skills above grade level. The criteria for recommending a student from his or her current placement in a regular level class to an honors placement *for the following school year* are described below.

### **To be recommended for Honors English Language Arts students must:**

- Consistently score advanced on in-class writing samples.
- Score STANDARD EXCEEDED on ELA CAASPP assessments.
- Score 80th percentile or greater on Renaissance STAR Reading assessments [nationally normed percentile rank]
- Earn “A” grades [90% or greater] in the two most recent semesters in English Language Arts.
- Demonstrate strong inferential reading comprehension; see beneath the surface of the material; easily grasp the nuances of the reading material.
- Demonstrate outstanding writing skills employing logical reasoning, critical thinking, and mature insights; possess an above grade level vocabulary and use it correctly.
- Possess a strong work ethic and consistently complete work of the highest quality on time.

### **Students must ALSO meet 2 of the following 4 criteria:**

- ◆ Work independently with excellent time management skills.
- ◆ Seek challenges and work for the intrinsic rather than the extrinsic reward.
- ◆ Want to improve – seek, accept, and learn from criticism with a positive attitude
- ◆ Recognize and commit to the demands of the Honors English Language Arts program. This may include weekend homework.

A student meeting the above criteria may have his or her name submitted by the current Language Arts and/or Social Science teachers to the applicable honors review committee[s]. Parents whose student meets the above criteria and would like their student to be considered should contact their student's current Language Arts and/or Social Science teachers via email by a designated date in May. The applicable honors committee[s] will review all student materials and make the final decision on the appropriate placement.

### **Continued Placement:**

Students enrolled in an honors class must maintain a "B" or higher semester grade in order to remain in the honors class. Students with less than an 80% will automatically be placed in a regular level class at the semester. [Note: this is current district policy.]