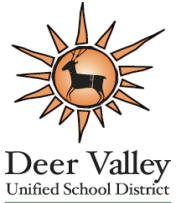




Union Park School

Lauren Ghanooni, Principal

Max Wood, Assistant Principal



Mrs. Kristin Eagar – 7th Grade ELA

Philosophy:

Parent Involvement is all about the children. Participation in your child's education is proven to boost his or her achievement in school. We are committed to treat parents as partners while keeping lines of communication open and focused on the needs of your child. Mutual trust and respect between parents and teachers is required to maintain a positive learning experience at any school. We believe that your trust in Union Park is required to ensure your child's success.

What will ELA encompass?

- [Arizona State Standards](#) for ELA can be found here.
- In 7th grade ELA, students will continue to strengthen their communication skills as they develop their understanding of reading, writing, listening, and speaking. These areas will be integrated into text-based instruction through the study of vocabulary, grammar, mechanics, usage, and comprehension with an emphasis on critical and analytical thinking. Students will read short stories, novels, informational text, and poetry. Additionally, they will utilize the writing process in the composition of narrative, argumentative, and informational essays. Students will use elements of effective listening and speaking skills when responding in class, giving presentations, and communicating collaboratively. Students are expected to incorporate ELA skills into all aspects of this class.

Resources for you and your parents:

- [DVUSD English Language Arts Resources for Parents](#)
- [What is Depth of Knowledge](#) (DOK)?

COMMUNICATION:

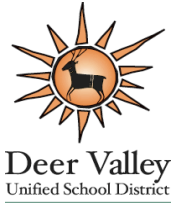
- **Union Park Protocol**- please follow this with any type of communication.
 - [Communication Protocol Flow Chart](#)
- School-wide
 - [Union Park School Website](#)
 - Make sure that you frequent Smores via social media, email, and texts
- Mrs. Eagar's website can be found here: [Mrs. Eagar](#). Here you will find links to Canvas, Powerschool, any parent information forms & resources.
- Always feel free to reach out to me via email: kristin.eagar@dvusd.org



Union Park School

Lauren Ghanooni, Principal

Max Wood, Assistant Principal



Mrs. Kristin Eagar – 7th Grade ELA

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES (PLC's):

Most Fridays, students will be released early so that we can participate in PLC work. This work is directly related to the planning, instruction, and interventions we implement in our classrooms to ensure that students master the standards.

Role of PLC

A professional learning community is a group of educators that meet regularly and work collaboratively to improve teaching practices and the achievement of students. The questions that drive the work of PLC's are:

- What do we want all students to know and be able to do?
- How will we know if they learn it?
- How will we respond if some students do not learn?
- How will we extend the learning for students who are already proficient?

PLC Teams are responsible for collaborating to establish general consistency among the following:

- Assignments, presentations, products, observations, and assessments used to determine a student's level of performance in relation to grade-level standards.
- The method and schedule for additional learning opportunities.
- Due dates, deadlines, and procedures for reassessment.
- Create opportunities for common scoring of assessments.

Generative Artificial Intelligence Tools in Grades K-8:

After careful consideration and in alignment with the developmental needs of our students and the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), DVUSD has determined that the use of Large Language Models (LLMs), such as ChatGPT, is not suitable for students in grades K-8 (under 13 years of age) and will not be utilized or endorsed in academic contexts at Union Park.

Homework & Grades:

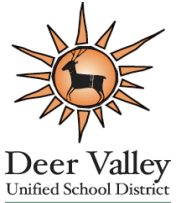
- Homework is intended to allow for practice, extend learning, and provide opportunities for students to develop critical, independent study skills and self-discipline for their life-long educational journeys.
- Grades are a reporting tool utilized to reflect what a student knows and can do in a content area. We measure achievement, not effort or behavior, in our grading system.
- Grades will be equitable, accurate, specific, and consistent.
- A student's grade should reflect academic learning and should never be used as a punitive tool.
- Grades are for reporting the status of academic learning, not behavioral conduct.



Union Park School

Lauren Ghanooni, Principal

Max Wood, Assistant Principal



Mrs. Kristin Eagar – 7th Grade ELA

- The primary purpose of assessment and grading is to provide detailed feedback to inform and support student learning.
- Learning is a process that takes place over time and at different speeds for different students.
- PowerSchool is an essential resource for parents and students. It is not only a tool for communication regarding grades, it is a resource for our students and parents to check progress, missing work, and what is being taught/learned regularly. Please ensure that you and your child have access (separate accounts) and sign up for the app, push notifications, or weekly email updates as an option in PowerSchool.

Students in 3rd through 12th grades will receive marks for their overall performance in each course of study using the following letter grade scale. Overall course grades for students in grades 3-12 will be calculated from the average of the student's assignment scores* (assessments, coursework).

A = 90-100%

B = 80-89%

C = 70-79%

D = 60-69%

F = 0-59%

Grades of "D" and above are passing marks. A course grade of "F" indicates that the student has failed the course. Students in 3rd through 12th grades will receive marks for their proficiency towards the grade level standards using the following scale. These marks are for information and do not calculate the student's overall course grade.

4 = Highly Proficient

3 = Proficient

2 = Partially Proficient

1 = Minimally Proficient

*For graded work in the Assessment Category, teachers will enter the proficiency marks for each standard measured and use the following guide to assign a score to the assignment. Parents will see the percentage score for each grade book entry with the letter grade mark on the front page of the PowerSchool parent portal.



Union Park School

Lauren Ghanooni, Principal

Max Wood, Assistant Principal



Deer Valley
Unified School District

Mrs. Kristin Eagar – 7th Grade ELA

Highly Proficient A 100%–90%			Proficient B 89%–80%		Proficient C 79%–70%	
100–97	96–94	93–90	89–85	84–80	79–75	74–70
All 4's on standards	All 4's except for one 3	Mostly 4's with some 3's and/or 2's	Mostly 3's with some 4's All 3's on standards	Mostly 3's and 4's with a 2	Mostly 3's with some 2's	Mostly 2's with 3's and/or 4's
Partially Proficient D 69%–60%			Minimally Proficient F 59%–50%			
69–65		64–60	59–56		55–50	
Mostly 2's and 3's with a 1		All 2's on standards	Mostly 2's and some 1's		All 1's on standards	
No Evidence						
49% – 0%						

For additional information, the parent may click the blue "show standards" icon to view the proficiency marks for the learning standards associated with the assessment or coursework.

Due Date	Category	Assignment	Flags	Score	%	Grade
09/22/2022	Assignments	Weathering Rates - Gizmos		100/100	100	A
09/16/2022	Assignments	Weathering of Different Rocks Gizmo		90/100	90	A
09/09/2022	Quiz	Landforms Quiz		88/100	88	B
	4.8.10.1.8 - Plan and carry out an investigation to explore and explain the interactions between Earth's major systems and the impact on Earth's surface materials and processes. 4.8.10.1.6			3		Proficiency level shown here
08/12/2022	Quiz	Scientific Method Quiz		100/100	100	A

Gradebooks will be set to utilize the following weights for each category:

ASSESSMENT: 80%

COURSEWORK: 20%

PRACTICE: 0%

Extra Credit:

Just as imposing grade penalties for poor behavior distorts academic grades, so does awarding higher grades or extra credit for good behavior. Extra credit renders an academic grade less accurate since it is not based upon performance of the standards, but rather on compliant behaviors. No extra credit will be awarded.



Union Park School

Lauren Ghanooni, Principal

Max Wood, Assistant Principal



Mrs. Kristin Eagar – 7th Grade ELA

Missing Work:

An assignment is considered as missing work when it is not submitted by the due date.

Missing work will be treated as such:

- The assignment will be marked with the “missing” special code in the grade book.
- A zero 49% will be entered as the score for the assignment in the grade book.
- No Evidence (NE) will be entered for the standards attached to the assignment
- If the work is submitted as Late Work (see below), the assignment score will be changed to reflect the student’s actual score with no deductions or penalties.

Cheating:

If a student chooses to cheat on an assignment, they will initially receive a ‘0’ for the assignment but will have the opportunity to do a make-up assignment for full credit. Even though they will not lose credit for the assignment, they will still be disciplined through the Union Park Discipline Matrix for this behavior choice.

Reassessment:

Learning is a journey that is often not linear. Some students learn content and skills quickly while others may require more time or feedback to learn. The primary objective of grades is to report where a student is in the learning process, regardless of how much time or effort the student needs to get there. If a student does poorly on an assessment, they will be allowed to retake the assessment for full credit up to 10 school days after the assessment provided that they follow the teacher's feedback and demonstrate new learning. The assessment may not be the same as the original assessment or even in the same form, but it will still address the same content.

Absent Work:

The policy states that students will have one day for every day they are absent to make up their work. (Long-term absences will be handled on an individual basis.) This policy does not apply to suspensions, as the student should be contacting teachers. It is the student’s responsibility to contact their teachers to see what they missed and how to catch up.

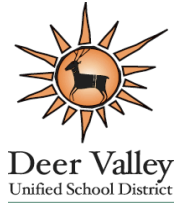
Promotion/Retention:

Per DVUSD policy all 7th and 8th must earn a D or higher or P as the final grade in ALL Core subjects. This includes ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies. If an elective and/or exploratory is failed, based on an average for the year, the student will still be reassigned to the next school



Union Park School

Lauren Ghanooni, Principal
Max Wood, Assistant Principal



Mrs. Kristin Eagar – 7th Grade ELA

grade level but in the case of 8th grade, they will not participate in the Promotion Ceremony. Our school counselor will be working closely with all at-risk students throughout the year to help ensure their success.

Students Role in Learning:

Students become self-directed in learning about themselves as a learner. They have to analyze their study habits to figure out what works for them, this helps students retain knowledge.

- Incomplete formative assignments will be identified as a 0 (7th/8th) or 1 and be indicated as missing in the grade book.
- Retakes must be student-initiated; parents should acknowledge awareness of retakes. Reassessments will be permitted following proof of practice and relearning, per teacher discretion.
- Retakes and late work must be submitted within two weeks of the date of the original assessment.
- No “extra credit” will be given at any time.

Toro Time:

Toro Time is a before or after-school opportunity for students to maximize their potential success. Learning and completing work at Union Park is required. Toro Time is offered to all students who have not shown proficiency in their current learning progressions or classwork. Toro time will be assigned to students to attend for extra help and assistance, or when a student needs to complete his/her work. Without completing their work, it is hard to know if a student is progressing toward mastering the standards we are teaching in class. We ask for parent support and cooperation in transporting students to or from their assigned Toro Time so that they are not falling behind or simply allowed to opt out of their work.

About Mrs. Eagar:

Welcome to 7th grade ELA! My name is Mrs. Eagar and I am so happy to be your ELA teacher this year! I have lived in the Phoenix area for the last 24 years and this will be my 16th year working in DVUSD. This is my third year at Union Park and I am so happy to be a Toro!

I graduated from Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration. After working in the financial field for numerous years, I discovered my passion for education and obtained my teaching credentials and middle school language arts



Union Park School

Lauren Ghanooni, Principal

Max Wood, Assistant Principal



Mrs. Kristin Eagar – 7th Grade ELA

certification. Becoming an educator was one of the best decisions I have ever made! I truly love teaching and I believe that I am in the most rewarding profession there is! In my free time I enjoy spending time with my family, doing just about anything outdoors, reading, and watching movies.

Please feel free to contact me anytime with any questions or concerns. Since I will not be able to communicate by phone for the majority of the school day, the easiest way to get in touch with me is by e-mail. I look forward to working with you to make it a GREAT year!