



Course Name: 7th Grade English Language Arts

Instructor Name: Heather Toone

Contact Information: Call or email me with any questions or concerns.

- School Phone: **434-797-8860**
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- Room number: **E105**
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- Website: <https://westwood.danvillepublicschools.org/t/d/~board/westwood-teacher-pages-heather-toone-board/post/heather-toone>
- Planning Period/Office Hours: 9:20-10:40

Course Description: In seventh grade, students continue to build upon skills previously taught in earlier grades. There is a continued emphasis on reading comprehension by comparing fiction and nonfiction texts. In fiction texts, students will identify elements of a variety of genres while focusing on an author's style. In seventh grade, there is an increased emphasis on nonfiction reading, and students will identify the source, point-of-view, and purpose of texts. The student will continue the study of word origins and roots and begin identifying connotations. The student will also plan, draft, revise, and edit writing in a variety of forms with an emphasis on expository and persuasive writing. Students will write to develop and modify a central idea, tone, and voice to fit the audience and purpose. Students will continue to deliver multimodal presentations individually and in collaborative groups. Students will also interpret information presented in diverse media formats. Students share responsibility for collaborative work, as both a contributor and a facilitator, while working for consensus to accomplish goals. The student will apply research techniques to quote, summarize, and paraphrase research findings while properly citing sources. As in earlier grades, the meaning and consequences of plagiarism will be stressed.

Student Evaluation:

- Student Conduct/Behavior
- (Gold) Assessments, Test, Projects 40 %
- (Silver) Quizzes and Minor Assignments 35 %
- (Bronze) Classwork, Homework, and Participation 25 %

A = 90-100% | B = 89-80% | C = 79-70% | D = 69-60% | F = 59-0%

Student Goal:

During the school year 2025-2026, all students will utilize High-Quality Instructional Materials (HQIM) as delivered by the teacher to achieve an 80% pass rate in reading, math, science, and history SOL tested courses.

Promotion Requirements:

According to Danville Public School's Promotion and Retention Policy, **K-8** student promotion shall be based upon satisfactory performance as follows:

- Students in grades K-8 who pass mathematics and english and at least one of the following: social studies or science will be promoted to the next grade.

- For students in grades 3-8, attending at least 90% of class days is required to receive course credit.

Individual student retention shall be based upon a cumulative evaluation of the following factors:

Academic Performance:

- Students in grades K-8 fail one or more of the three core subject areas.
- Students in grades K-8 consistently perform below grade level in reading and mathematics when appropriate intervention and other supports have been provided and documented.
- Students in grades 3-8 Standard of Learning assessment results in reading and mathematics at the end of grade indicate below grade-level academic performance.
- Students in grades 3-8 do not attend 90% of class days required to receive course credit.

Please be aware that you can keep track of your student’s grades, assignments, and attendance by using your Parent Portal account. Homework is posted each week on our school webpage under the teacher’s name. Please contact your student’s school counselor if you need help navigating our school website, a Parent Portal activation code, or assistance accessing the Parent Portal.

Course Requirements:

- All homework should be completed as assigned.
- All students should be ready to participate in all class activities.
- All students will be expected to use appropriate classroom etiquette.
- All students are expected to respectful, responsible, and ready to learn on a daily basis

Parent and Student Resources

- All parents are encouraged to check the Parent Portal to monitor student academic progress and attendance. The Parent Portal can be downloaded from Google Play and the App Store.
- Be sure to follow the Westwood Middle School Page on Facebook and on Class Dojo.

