



Kathleen and Tim Harney Middle School

Student Expectations 2024-2025

English Language Arts (ELA) 6 and Accelerated ELA 6

High Priority Objective

We will work cooperatively to provide a positive learning environment that promotes citizenship and academic achievement.

Technology Requirements

This course is technology-driven. It is expected that each student will have a CCSD Chromebook with them daily. It is the student's responsibility to make necessary arrangements if the internet is not available at home.

Course Scope and Goals

This one-year course will expand the students' writing abilities and strengthen critical thinking skills. All lessons will relate to the process of writing. Grammar and mechanics will be taught as essential elements of the writing process. Literature will be used to generate and model writing and critical thinking skills. This course reinforces the development of strategic reading behaviors and will emphasize an interactive approach in which students construct meaning from text. The focus is on utilizing vocabulary, thought processes, and strategies to become independent writers and readers.

Course Descriptions

English Language Arts	This one-year, two-period course provides instruction in the English Language Arts strands identified by the Common Core State Standards as reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language. This course is designed to build knowledge and critical-thinking skills through close reading of texts, writing to support claims, clarifying ideas and developing ideas, and a range of collaborative discussions. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness, including appreciation of all cultures and their essential contributions to society. The appropriate use of technology and digital media is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills the sixth-grade English requirement and the sixth-grade reading requirement for promotion.
Accelerated English Language Arts	This one-year, two-period course provides instruction in the English Language Arts strands identified by the Common Core State Standards as reading, writing, speaking and listening, & language. This course is designated as accelerated by the enhanced instructional pacing and depth of content. This course is designed to build knowledge and critical-thinking skills through close reading of texts, writing to support claims, clarifying ideas and developing ideas, and a range of collaborative discussions. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness, including appreciation of all cultures and their essential contributions to society. The appropriate use of technology and digital media is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills the sixth-grade English requirement and the sixth-grade reading requirement for promotion.

Recommended Materials

Chromebook, 3-inch notebook, binder, Pencils, Highlighter, Colored Pencils, Eraser, Divider for each class, Wide-ruled laptop, paper, Zipper pouch, Red Pen, Spiral Notebook

Assignment Information

- All assignments are due at the end of class unless otherwise stated by the teacher.

All assignments must be turned in on the assigned date. During the last week of the quarter, no late work was accepted.

- Obtain make-up work as soon as possible when returning from an absence. - If extra help is needed, individual assistance is available before and after school.
- If a student scores less than 70% on an assessment, they may be eligible to retake an alternate assessment. If a retake of an appraisal is necessary, an alternate assignment will be given to assist the student in remediation. Upon completing the assignment, the student will be eligible to reschedule and retake an alternate assessment.

Evaluation and Grading System

Grades will be given as follows:

A 90-100% B 80-89% C 70-79% D 60-69% F 59- below Grades will be weighted into the following categories:

80% Assessments* 20% Classwork

***Assessments include tests, quizzes, writing tasks, and projects**

HMH Into Literature

- Tier 1: *HMH Into Literature* is an online literary program that reaches every student at their level. Your child will regularly receive reading and writing materials that are not too easy or too difficult but are at just the right level to help increase literacy skills.
- Harney Middle School has already purchased HMH Into Literature. Your child will use the program in school, and you can access it 24/7—anytime, anywhere. Parent login information will be available on the website.
- Tier 2: Harney Middle School has also purchased the program Edmentum (Reading). This is an online program that also syncs with the MAPS Reading test. Students can work at their own pace on their learning path or be assigned skills/standards that match the lesson being taught in class for better support and practice. Students can access this material 24/7.
- Tier 3: Harney Middle School has also purchased ThinkCERCA. This is an online program that students can use to read articles of interest. They will also be assigned some classwork to support them in reading/writing/vocabulary/grammar. They will have access to the program 24/7.

The following criteria determine Semester Grades:

Semester 1: Quarter 1 – 50% Quarter 2 – 50%

Semester 2: Quarter 3 – 50% Quarter 4 – 50%

Citizenship Grades:

Citizenship is evaluated on the following scale:

O-Outstanding, S-Satisfactory, N-Needs improvement, U-Unsatisfactory

A student's citizenship grade is their responsibility. It includes the following requirements: being on time for class, following directions, remaining attentive in class, staying on task, and maintaining a positive attitude toward peers and adults. Citizenship grades will be lowered as a result of not meeting the above criteria in addition, but not limited, to the following behaviors: distracting or disruptive behavior, damaging school equipment, tampering with another student's account, cheating, and using obscene language verbally or online. Parents will be contacted if their child is currently earning a 'U' in citizenship.

Expected Student Behavior

Students are expected to do the following:

- Follow *ALL* CCSD and Harney Middle School rules across all settings.
- Follow the directions of *ALL* adults.
- Be respectful at all times.
- Be honest, trustworthy, and kind.
- Always enter class quietly.
- Always write assignments in your planner.
- Always have supplies (charged Chromebook, pencil, work, etc.).
- Always use an inside voice and have permission before speaking.
- Always complete and turn in assignments.

Infinite Campus Portal Usage

To help you more effectively monitor the progress of your child, the Clark County School District provides a web-based system. This system will provide detailed, real-time information, including Calendar, Schedules, Attendance, Grades, Health (Immunizations Only), Assignments, Academic Planner, Academic Progress, Fees/Payments, To-Do Lists, Reports, District/School Notices, Cafeteria Balance, School Meals Application. If you have forgotten your account information, please see our school registrar. You will need a valid photo ID to

retrieve/reset passwords.

But wait! There's an app for that! The Campus Parent and Campus Student mobile apps provide a fast and convenient way for parents and students to check grades, assignments, schedules, attendance, and daily planner information on their iOS or Android devices. The apps are available to our parents and students at no cost and can be downloaded directly from the iTunes App Store or Google Play Store.

For more information, visit: <http://ccsd.net/parents/infinite-campus.php>

Cell Phone Use

For the 2024-2025 school year, the Clark County School District (CCSD) has implemented a new cell phone policy aimed at minimizing distractions in the classroom. Students in grades 6–12 are required to place their cell phones in non-locking, signal-blocking pouches during instructional time. This measure is intended to keep students focused on learning by preventing them from using their phones during class.

The pouches will be stored in a designated area within the classroom, allowing students access in case of emergencies. While elementary schools have the option to adopt this policy, it is mandatory for all middle and high schools within the district.

Help Your Child Succeed in School

Many parents ask how they can help their children succeed in school. The U.S. Department of Education offers the following tips, which can be found online at www.ed.gov.

- 1. Create a home environment that encourages learning and schoolwork.** Establish a daily family routine of mealtimes with time for homework, chores, and bedtime, as well as time for family activities. Show your child that the skills they are learning in school are a vital part of the things they will do as an adult. Let your student see you reading books, newspapers, and computer screens; writing reports, letters, e-mails, and lists; using math to figure change or to measure for new carpeting; and doing things that require thought and effort.
- 2. Make sure that your home has a wide variety of reading materials appropriate for your child. Keep books, magazines, and newspapers in the house. You can find many appropriate books and magazines for your child at yard or library sales.** Books make good gifts.
- 3. Encourage your child to use the library.** Ask the librarian about special reading programs, book clubs, and services such as homework help.
- 4. Limit TV viewing to no more than one hour on a school night.** Be aware of the shows your child likes to watch and discuss those choices. The same goes for video games.
- 5. Help your child learn to use the Internet properly and effectively.**
- 6. Encourage your child to be responsible and to work independently.** Taking responsibility and working independently are essential qualities for school success.
- 7. Show an interest in what your child does in school.** Support their particular interests by attending school plays, musical events, science fairs, or sporting events.
- 8. Offer praise and encouragement for achievement and improvement.**