



Mrs. Serna-Bates

I teach 6th-grade Language Arts and Social Studies, 7th-grade Language Arts, and support ALA's PBIS program and Elementary Speech and Debate.



Course Description



This is my 10th year teaching, and I am thrilled to be back teaching middle school. I believe the classroom should be a safe space for academic risk-taking and emotional growth. My goal is to help students leave the classroom feeling more confident, curious, and capable of thinking critically about themselves and the world around them. Join me in growing and becoming a lifelong learner!



Class Agreements



- Show ALA P.R.I.D.E.
- Take care of yourself. You are 1 of 1.
- Come prepared with all materials and a positive mindset.
- Participate actively in discussions & activities.



What To Bring



- Class notebook and texts
- Pencil and highlighter
- Agenda (issued by school)
- Chromebook (issued by school) & ear buds/headphones



Teacher Contact



ParentSquare



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Academic Integrity Policy

Academic integrity is essential to learning, fairness, and personal responsibility. Students are expected to complete all assignments honestly and independently. Academic dishonesty includes copying another student's work, allowing your work to be copied, sharing answers or assignments for the purpose of copying, using unauthorized materials during assessments, or submitting work that is not your own, including the use of AI. Both giving and receiving copied work are violations of this policy. Violations will result in a zero on the assignment, additional consequences such as a parent/guardian notification, and possible referral to administration depending on the severity or frequency of the violation.

ALA LATE WORK POLICY GRADES 6-8

If a late assignment is submitted **within 24 hours** of the due date;
- 10% off of earned grade.

If a late assignment is submitted **over 24 hours** (and within the grading period);
- 20% off of earned grade.

Project/PBL/Essays - scores will be reduced by **10%** each day late, until **50%**.

★ Be Original. Give Credit. Do the Right Thing. ★

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY GRADES 6-8

DEFINITION OF PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism occurs when a student presents someone else's words, ideas, work, or creations as their own without giving proper credit.

PLAGIARISM INCLUDES:

- COPYING:** Taking text or ideas from a book, website, or another person.
- SUBSTITUTION:** Turning in another student's work as your own.
- AI MISUSE:** Using Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools to generate writing, answers, images, or projects and submitting them as your original work.
- PATCHWRITING:** Copying or slightly changing words to make them look original when they are not.
- FACILITATING ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:** Sharing your work (physically or digitally) to another student for the purpose of copying.

GRADES 6-8: ACCOUNTABILITY & DISCIPLINE

Note: Actions and consequences may be elevated at the discretion of the teacher or administrator, depending on the nature and scope of the academic integrity violation.

INCIDENT	ACTION & CONSEQUENCE	
1 FIRST INCIDENT	- Teacher/Student conference - Zero credit (no-grade) for the assignment	- Parent/guardian notification - Incident documented in shared teacher tracker
2 SECOND INCIDENT	- Same as First Incident - Formal notification sent to the Administrative Team (Principal/AP/Counselor)	Logged in Aeries
3 THIRD INCIDENT	- Same as First Incident - Administrative Referral	- Loss of non-academic events (e.g., house parties, field days, field trips) - Student required to submit all future work via paper/pencil

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Things To Know

- All **assessments are 70%** of a student's overall grade. **Assignments are worth 30%** of a student's overall grade.
- Weekly reading minutes are due on Monday's by 11:00AM.
 - **6th grade 100 minutes**
 - **7th grade 125 minutes**
- iReady weekly minutes are due on Friday's by 10:00PM.
 - **45 minutes for both 6th and 7th grade**
- Review the date and time of when an assignment on **Canvas** is due to ensure assignments are submitted on time.

Tips for success!

- Plan out weekly reading minutes at the start of the week.
- Plan out out weekly iReady minutes.
- Turn in assignments on time to not loose points.
- Take focused notes and study them.
- Ask for help ahead of time.
- Have a CAN-do attitude!