Syllabus for Mr. Yandell’s and Mrs. Anglen’s class

Sierra Middle School

2014-2015 School Year

Dear Parents and Students:

Welcome to a new school year here at Sierra 2-8 School. This year we will be providing inclusion instruction in Math, Language Arts and Reading for 7th grade students. It is going to be a great year and we are looking forward to working with all of you. In this letter we will be giving you an overview of what will be happening in the class and what your child will be learning this year. All instruction in the class is aligned to the Arizona State Teaching Standards for 7th grade, the Common Core Instructional Standards, and tied to the district curriculum. This year in the class we will be using the district’s current adoption for Language Arts and Reading along with carefully selected supplementary materials that are geared at the students academic levels and helping to encourage more understanding and academic growth. Reading instruction this year will be primarily in the Reading Plus Reading Program. This is an online program and the students will have time in class to work on their skills and lessons, but they are also encouraged to work on their skills and lessons at home, if they have internet access. We will also be using the Agile Minds Program and Ascend Math Program(intervention) for math instruction this year.

Great efforts are going to be made this year to help your child achieve their academic goals. The philosophy, or belief, of the class this year is that every child can learn. They may not all be able to learn the same way and on the same day, but everyone can and will learn. Daily learning goals and standards to be taught will always be posted in the room using the Great School Workshop (GSW) model. Please make certain to check your child’s planner daily to stay current on assignments, projects and school events. One of the daily requirements for the class is that the students need to write their assignments or standards in their planners.

Yearly schedule of instruction for Reading/Language Arts:

Your students will have the opportunity to learn the following skills in each quarter this school year:

* + Quarter 1
    - Theme: Reading closely for textual evidence and evidence based claims
    - Reading : Informational texts
    - Writing : Argumentative/ Persuasion
  + Quarter 2
    - Theme: Individuality
      * Extended text: The Giver
    - Reading: Informational texts
    - Writing: Informational texts
  + Quarter 3
    - Theme: Ethics
      * Extended text: Frankenstein
    - Reading: Literary text
    - Writing: Informational text
  + Quarter 4
    - Theme: Journeys and survival
      * Extended text: A Long Walk To Water
    - Reading: Informational Texts
    - Writing Argumentative texts / persuasion.

All instruction and materials are going to be given in the best possible combination to help your child achieve. There will be adapted instructional materials and grade level materials used in the mainstream class setting and there will be reinforcement and help offered in both the advisory and ECCAP class. All testing and instructional modifications will be followed in an effort to help your child succeed.

Yearly schedule of instruction for Math:

Your students will have the opportunity to learn the following skills in each quarter this school year:

* + Quarter 1
    - Fractions
    - Ratios
    - Percentages
  + Quarter 2
    - Adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing integers
  + Quarter 3
    - Geometry basics
  + Quarter 4
    - Probability
    - Representing and interpreting data

Grading:

Grading is on a traditional scale for the student. Grades are based on the following percentage scale:

90-100% A

80-89% B

70-79% C

60-69% D

0-59% F

All students in my classes begin with an ‘A’ for both classes. It is their responsibility to keep the grade up. Every student can pass the class as long as they accept the responsibility to turn in assignments, projects, homework and tests on time.

The Sunnyside Unified School District has a no pass, no play policy. A student must have passing grades in all classes and at least a 2.0 GPA to be eligible to participate in clubs or sports at school. A student cannot have a grade of “F” in any class to participate in a club or sport.

In the event that a student is not happy with their score on a test or is absent during a test, a make up test is available within five days of the original test. Spelling test are given twice automatically and the better of the two grades are used for the grading system here at Sierra Middle School.

Attendance:

Remember attendance is important. Students can’t learn the material if they are in class. Please work with us here at Sierra to make sure that your student is at school every day. If a student is out for an illness or other reason(s), make up work can be provided to them and tutoring is available. The student must take the responsibility to ask for this, complete it and turn it in. Make up work is due within five (5) days of the student returning to school for full credit.

Class Expectations

The school rules for the year are:

BE THE THREE

* Be responsible
* Be respectful
* Be reliable

The 7th Grade Team rules for this year are:

* Be on time
* Be prepared
* Be responsible
* Be respectful
* Be your best

My expectations for the class are:

1. Come to class on time and ready to learn with materials and homework ready to go.
2. If you do not understand, ask a question. If you still do not understand ask again. This is a sign of intelligence.
3. Don’t be afraid to ask a question.
4. Appreciate kindness
5. Listen to what is being said. If you don’t you might miss something important.
6. Use active listening skills.
7. Agree or disagree with ideas, do not criticize the person with the ideas.
8. Follow classroom and school wide rules and standards.
9. Teasing and putting others down will not be tolerated.
10. When someone else is speaking in class please listen to them. Each person who needs to speak will be given a chance to do so.
11. Use your class time wisely
12. Taking is class is expected and encouraged at appropriate times.

Restrooms, water, nurse

If a student needs to use the restroom or get a drink during class they may use a campus pass unless one of the following is occurring

1. The teacher is giving directions or instruction the whole class.
2. A test is being given
3. A campus emergency has the school in a lockdown.

To leave the room a student must fill out their pass and have the teacher sign it before leaving the room. The campus pass must be carried with the student at all times while they are away from the room. Students must return to class in a timely manner.

Should the need for medical attention arise. There is a nurse on campus and the nurse pass will be provided. The student must make the teacher aware of the need for medical attention first. The teacher will fill out the pass and give it to the student. When the nurse has seen the student she will, in turn sign the pass for the student to return to class along with the time that she released the student. The student must then return to class in a timely manner.

Discipline

The classroom rules are attached. The District is using the Positive Behavioral System (PBS) this year Sierra is using a discipline matrix. Please see below for a brief look at the matrix:

* Level One
  + Teacher/ student conference
  + First offense
* Level Two
  + Teacher/ student conference
  + Parent call home
  + Second offense
* Level Three
  + Teacher/student conference
  + Phone call home
  + Parent conference
  + Student contract
* Level Four
  + Formal referral to front office
  + Discipline matrix consequences ( IFS/OSS, act)

The process used here is the same as it was last year. Please also see the student handbook/planner for more specific information on this.

If you would like to come in and spend a day or part of a day in the classroom with you child, please feel free to come in a do so. I encourage you to spend some time in school with your student and see how their day goes. Just check in at the front office and make certain that you get a visitor’s pass. If you need to reach me or ask questions please fee free to e-mail us at:

[wesleyy@susd12.org](mailto:wesleyy@susd12.org) or [jaimea@susd12.org](mailto:jaimea@susd12.org)

You can also call the school and leave a message for us and we will be glad to return the call. 545-4800.

Thanks for your time.

Wesley Yandell Jr. MA Ed. Jamie Anglen

Please return this page to Mr. Yandell or Mrs. Anglen by 15 August 2014

I have read and understand the outline for Mr. Yandell’s and Mrs. Anglen’s class for the 2014 / 2015 school year.

* Parent’s printed name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Parent’s signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Student’s printed name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Student’s signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Parent’s phone number:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Date received signed by:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_