



Lexington Junior High School

Speech Communications - Mrs. Heck 2015-2016

Course Description: This course is an introduction to public speaking and will help students gain the skills they will need for presentations in high school and beyond. Becoming a good speaker requires some instruction and lots of practice, and this class offers plenty of both. During class students will develop confidence and public speaking skills. Skills taught include: organization of material, voice control, audience contact, expressive voice and gestures, and the use of visuals to make a speech/debate more effective.

Educational Materials: Students **should** have the following materials in class every day:

- ✓ Spiral Notebook for note taking
- ✓ Pen and pencil
- ✓ Highlighters
- ✓ Text – Effective Speech Communication (not checked out)

★ Chromebook – students will be assigned a Chromebook # and it will be used in class ONLY for research and not checked out.

Assignments

Throughout the course students will be reading current and historic speeches, taking notes, and writing/presenting a variety of speeches and debate topics. Individual assignment objectives will be given at a later date.

Homework

Speeches need to be prepared and practiced and students are expected to do so at home. Debate topics will need to be researched and practiced

at home as well. Class time will be given to prepare, but experience shows that time at home is also necessary.

Make-Up Work

Make-up work and tests will only be given when a missed day is **EXCUSED**.

1. All assignments are due your first day back to school. When turning in absent work, the word ABSENT must be written on the top of the paper.
2. Unexcused absences result in a zero.

Grading: Students grades will be divided in the following categories: Speeches, Debates, Participation and Tests/Quizzes.

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

AERIES: Please check Aeries to see your student's grades. An assignment will not be put on Aeries until it is graded, and this could take up to a week or more depending on the assignment. Upcoming assignments are NOT posted here, just graded ones. I encourage students to regularly check their grades on their OWN because this will teach them to be more responsible. If you or your child notices an error in Aeries, such as a missing grade, it could be that he/she never turned in the assignment or it is in the NO NAME tray. It could also be a mistake on my part, so please bring it to my attention. You may have the student check with me or contact me through email.

Class Expectations:

- ❖ Respect is KEY to a successful learning environment and to your child's well-being. Bullying, teasing and any use of inappropriate language are not tolerated.
- ❖ Students must be in their assigned seats and on time! An unexcused tardy will result in a detention (see BR for the consequences on the tardy policy).
- ❖ Come to class with the appropriate materials and be prepared to work every day.
- ❖ Keep hands, feet, and objects to oneself.

- ❖ Follow the teacher's directions.
- ❖ Eating, drinking, and grooming are to be done outside of class. Water is acceptable. No chewing gum (this is a school policy).
- ❖ Technology – When students are on the Chrome books, they are **not** to be used to browse any content other than that which is instructed.

Students are expected to follow the class expectations at all times. Failure to do so will result in parent contact and following through with Progressive Discipline Policy. Students who display outstanding citizenship will be eligible for class rewards and for the School's quarterly S and O Party (Satisfactory and Outstanding Remarks).

Progressive Discipline:

- ❖ Verbal warning to student
- ❖ 30 minute detention
- ❖ 60 minute detention (Teleparent or teacher/parent call)
- ❖ Seat changed
- ❖ Referral/WWS (Wednesday work study) – administrator
- ❖ N or U in citizenship on the report card
- ❖ Suspension and/or removal from class

Please fill out this paper and return to Mrs. Heck ASAP.

I have read, understood and accepted the 2015-2016 curriculum paper for Mrs. Heck's Speech class.

Student's printed full name

period

Parent or guardian's printed name

Parent or guardian's signature

date

Best phone number to reach the above parent/guardian