

Mater Academy Middle/High School
Advanced Reading
2014-2015
Teacher: Ms. Pisano
(305) 828-1886
episano@materacademy.com

Welcome to Mater Academy Middle/High School. I'm excited about the opportunity to get to know you, and I'm looking forward to a happy and productive school year. I have created a warm and welcoming learning environment, which revolves around centers and individual instruction. Students will have daily small group instruction with me, which will allow me to target each student's individual needs. Upcoming school events you should be aware of include; open house, parent conferences, and Saturday tutoring. Studies show that parental involvement in a child's education is one of the strongest indicators of student achievement. We hope you will make it a priority this year to attend as many school-sponsored events as possible. If you have any questions or concerns, would like to schedule a conference, or volunteer to help out, you can contact me via email. Please return the enclosed parent signature page by August 25th and 26th, 2014. Once again, welcome to Mater Academy Middle/High School. Let's work together to make this the best year ever!

Reading Course Materials

- Common Core Workbook: Is a supplemental reading curriculum program designed to provide differentiated instruction for the new Common Core Standards.
- Writing & Grammar Book: Is designed to introduce and provide practice for writing rules and grammar.
- Literature Book: Contains all the genres of writing as well as writing tips and lessons.
- Springboard: We will not be using the springboard in this class, but we will be aligning our standards to the Springboard you will be using in Language Arts.
- Timed Reading: Contains sample passages with comprehension questions.
- Novels: Each Nine weeks we will be reading and analyzing a novel including vocabulary for each novel.

Course Objectives

- Through our reading program, the learner will:
- Enjoy, appreciate, and evaluate language in all its forms.
- Listen, read, view, and think critically.
- Write and speak effectively in a wide variety of formal and informal styles.
- Pre-write, draft, revise, edit, publish, and reflect as a means to more effective writing.
- Choose and apply appropriate reading strategies in order to analyze and evaluate written texts.

Classroom Rules

1. Be seated with all materials and supplies when class begins.
2. Complete all assignments on time.
3. Listen while others are speaking.
4. Respect each other's opinions, space, and belongings.
5. Always wear the proper uniform.

Classroom Procedures and Expectations

If a student breaks a rule stated above, the following consequences will occur:

- 1st Infraction: Verbal Warning
- 2nd Infraction: Parent Contact
- 3rd Infraction: Detention (Detentions are served every Monday and Thursday after school in the auditorium.)
- Severe or Continuous Infractions: Referred to the Administration

Teacher/Parent Communication

If you need to contact me, there are several options. The quickest and easiest way to do so is through email. You may also call the front office or write a note and send it with your child to school. If you just need some information or to look up a date, you may go to my website and that should answer any questions you may have. Also, if I receive a question often I will usually add the answer to the website as well.

Home Learning

Students will have homework on a frequent basis and it will be due the following class unless otherwise noted. Late work will not be accepted, except in the case of excused absences. Reading Plus is a mandatory weekly assignment. Students should read at least one novel on grade level of their choosing per quarter.

Bathroom Policy

Students may NOT use the restroom during the first 15 minutes of class or the last 15 minutes of class. They are afforded 5 minutes before and after class, in the morning, during lunch, and after school to use the restroom. Bathrooms are for emergencies ONLY.

Required Materials

Please have the following supplies with you on a daily basis. Make sure everything has your name on it and is labeled properly.

- Flash Drive (to save all your work)
- Lined white paper
- 1 Composition notebook (any color)
- 1 Plastic Pocket Folders with 3 prongs
- Black, blue, red pens
- Pencils
- Hi-lighters (5 colors)
- White out and erasers
- Sheet protectors (min. of 20)
- Colored Markers and/or colored pencils
- Index cards (3 x 5)
- Liquid School Glue
- Student Scissors
- Sticky notes (post-its - 2 7/8" x 2 7/8")

Select 3 items from the list below to remain in class. Doing so will help ensure that the 30 required parent volunteer hours are met in a timely manner. Note: For every \$3 you spend, you get 1 hour of volunteer service for Mater Academy. Every parent needs 30 hours of volunteer hours or \$90 in teacher donation items. (*When purchasing item(s) make sure child's name, student ID and teacher is listed in the bag along with the receipt and give to me.*)

- Clorox wipes
- Pump hand sanitizer
- Individually wrapped candy
- White copy paper
- Manila Folders
- Hanging File Folders
- Paper Towels
- Liquid Glue
- Student Scissors
- Small Envelopes
- Gift cards to Walmart, Office Depot, Staples

Grade Breakdown and Policy

Grades are broken down into four different categories:

- Test: 25 % of grade
- Quiz: 15% of grade
- Classwork: 35 % of grade (journal, classwork, etc.)
- Homework: 25 % of grade

I understand all of Ms. Pisano's Policies and Expectations for the 2014-2015 school year.

Student's Name: _____

ID Number: _____

Period: _____

Parent's Name (Print): _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Parent's Phone Number: _____

Parent's E-mail: _____

Secondary Contact Name: _____

Relationship to Student: _____

Secondary Contact Phone Number: _____

Secondary Contact's E-mail: _____