

# **Classroom Organization and Expectations**

## *7<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts and Social Studies*

### **What does a typical day in Room 213 look like?**

- Student homework will be posted on the white-board for the entire week and will be updated during the week, there is also a monthly calendar posted where students can look to see what they missed from previous weeks.
- Agenda: The daily agenda will be posted in the front of the classroom and students will be required to write the agenda and any homework in their planners on a daily basis. Every Friday planners will be checked and students will receive credit for writing in their planners for the week.
- Warm-Up: To get students to start thinking and writing, they will often start off class with a warm-up of some type which they will write in their composition notebook for language arts.
- Homework/Daily work will be kept in the appropriate divider in their 3-ring binder.
- We will then begin the learning activity for the day.
- The period will typically end with reminders about homework and on-going assignments.

### **What is your policy on late and make-up work?**

Although I do expect students to turn in all assignments on time, I also understand that extenuating circumstances sometimes lead to a student missing a due date. The most crucial piece of homework is for students to get the practice that will lead to their mastery of our learning targets. I will collect student work at the end of each unit in a homework packet, but will check to see that homework is being completed on time. Late projects will be assigned a 10% deduction per day late, up to 50%.

Students who miss school because of an illness have one day for every day absent to turn in make-up work. Much of the learning that goes on in school cannot be made up if students miss class and so I urge families to avoid taking students out of school during the year, however pre-arranged absences can be made through the counseling office, and I encourage students to take advantage of the educational value of traveling.

I will allow students to re-take or edit assessments, up to a B+ (89%) grade. I believe that students must continue to work on a skill until they have mastered it, and I believe that a student's grade should reflect this progress. Missed assessments need to be made up before or after school at a pre-arranged time, with a week of receiving the assessment.

### **Grading**

We use standard-based grading at Woodward, meaning that our students will be graded based on their mastery of learning targets that are designed to meet the Washington State's Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALR's) and Grade Level Expectations (GLE's). Student's grades will be based on a combination of work completion, projects, assessments, and participation. Our most important grading tool will be student assessments which are designed to show the mastery of learning targets.

We use the traditional A,B,C,D,F grading symbols but their meanings have changed. A = well above grade level expectations, B = at grade level, C = approaching grade level, and D = well below grade level expectations. An F means that the student has not done enough of the work for an accurate assessment of his/her learning.

### **Where can I see what homework my student has in LA/SS?**

I encourage parents to play an active part in supporting their child by regularly checking on their homework and up-coming due dates. Students should have their assignments recorded in their daily planner and assignments will also be posted under “Homework Calendar” on my website. (<http://www.bainbridge.wednet.edu/woodward/staff/jbender>) I will link homework assignments and review sheets (when possible) to my website for students to view and print at home when needed. In addition to parents checking planners I will check student planners every Friday to encourage them to use this fantastic organizational tool.

### **How will I know how my student is doing in LA/SS?**

Throughout the year we will be sending home monthly progress reports which need to be signed and returned. I encourage parents to contact me with any questions or concerns about their students progress in my class.

### **How can I contact Mrs. Bender?**

I can be reached by email: [jbender@bainbridge.wednet.edu](mailto:jbender@bainbridge.wednet.edu) or by phone (206)780-4544. Please feel free to call or email if you have any questions or concerns.