**Mr. Edwards (Coach E.)**

**Feagin Mill Middle School**

**8th Grade English Language Arts**

Welcome to 8th Grade and Honors English! I am thrilled to be your instructor this year, and I look forward to exploring the English language, reading a few great books, and writing across the genres! Together, we have to potential to make this school year your most productive academic year to date.

Should you ever have questions or concerns, you may contact me using one of the following methods:

**Email**: [Stephen.edwards@hcbe.net](mailto:Stephen.edwards@hcbe.net)

**Google Classroom** – Class Codes will be given once class rosters are set.

**Curriculum:**

* Throughout the school year, we will study a wide variety of material in language arts. Students will understand the characteristics of *informational* and *argumentative* essays as well as *narrative* text structure while producing examples of each. Students will also analyze and respond to *literary* and *informational* texts as well as *poetry*. Furthermore, students will explore the intricacies of the English language in order to further develop their knowledge and awareness of the written and spoken word.
* For a comprehensive look at the performance standards (CCGPS) for 8th grade, please visit the following web address: <https://www.georgiastandards.org/Georgia-Standards/Pages/ELA-6-8.aspx>

**Daily Materials:**

* For this class to run at its best, students will need access the following materials/supplies on a daily basis: Writing Composition Notebook (at least two), Writing Utensils (pencils at the least), Notebook Paper, and Scotch Tape (to affix handouts and such within their interactive notebook).
* Other supplies may be necessary for projects coming later in the year. If so, I will give you ample time to gather anything pertinent. I promise to try to keep cost down as much as possible.
* FMMS is a BYOD school; however, cellular phones are not a part of that initiative due to a plethora of issues. Laptops, iPads, and tablets are permitted (***not* required**) and would greatly aid collaborative discussion. Unfortunately, COVID-19 has altered our approach to collaboration, so class discussion must be conducted differently than the past.
* Coming to class unprepared is undesired and will eventually result in disciplinary action.

**Grading Policy:**

* Grade breakdown: A = 90 – 100   
  15% - Daily Grades B = 80 – 89   
  30% - Minor Grades C = 70 – 79   
  40% - Major Grades

15% - Final Exams \* Students are in danger of failing

if their grades drop below 70.

**Diligence Clause**

* There are high expectations in this classroom, regardless of ability level. Everyone, including the teacher, is expected to work hard. Students are expected to take assignments and class time seriously to best impact their education. Students who refuse to complete work, or prevent others from working at high levels of effort will receive disciplinary consequences. Students who are struggling with content are encouraged to speak with the teacher about additional help. Help may be provided before or after school if class time does not allow it. Be upfront with the teacher about needing help while the problem is still small.

**Communication:**

* Students are required to sign up for Google Classroom, a safe, web-based classroom interaction website. This will be the easiest way for students to communicate with teachers directly. Resources will be posted to this site as well as assignments. Parents are able to and encouraged to create a parent account to monitor the site. Look for information in the welcome packet given out day #1. An access code will be given the first few days of school.
* You may also check your child’s grade via Infinite Campus. This is the quickest, most updated way to check grades in the class. Please contact the front office for an explanation of Infinite Campus for your mobile device.

Thank you for allowing me to be your child’s teacher! I look forward to all we will accomplish throughout this school year!

Kindly,

Stephen Edwards, Ed. S.

Feagin Mill Middle School

Honors English – Eighth Grade

Syllabus Acknowledgment

I have read and accept the information in the Eighth Grade Language Arts syllabus. I agree to follow all typical classroom rules and regulations to the best of my abilities. I pledge to work diligently and seek help if needed.

Student’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_