**English 8-**

**Rules, Expectations, and Policies**

**Mrs. Nancy Ferraro**

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**Supplies**

Students need to bring the following to class daily: 2 spiral notebooks (one for journaling and one for reading/vocabulary**)**, small Post-it notes, folder or binder with pockets to hold returned papers and handouts, an independent reading book, writing utensils (blue or black pens, two red correcting pens, pencils, White-Out and highlighters), Interactive Reader (workbook), and the class novel, when applicable.

**Course Goals**

According to the English-Language Arts Common Core Standards, students will:

1. Use their knowledge of word origins and word relationships, as well as historical and literary context clues, to determine the meaning of specialized vocabulary and to understand the precise meaning of grade-level-appropriate words.
2. Read and understand grade-level appropriate material as well as describe and connect the essential ideas, arguments, and perspectives of the text by using their knowledge of the text structure organization, and purpose.
3. Read and respond to historically or culturally significant works of literature that reflect and enhance their studies of history and social science, clarify the ideas, and then connect them to other literary works.
4. Write clear, coherent, and focused essays that exhibit an awareness of audience and purpose; contain a formal introduction, supporting evidence, and conclusion; and progress through the stages of the writing process.
5. Write narrative, expository, persuasive, and informative essays of 500 to 700 words in each genre that demonstrate a command of standard American English.
6. Write and speak with a command of Standard English conventions appropriate to grade level.
7. Deliver focused, coherent presentations that convey ideas clearly and relate to the background and interests of the audience.
8. Deliver well-organized formal presentations employing traditional rhetorical strategies (e.g. narration, exposition, persuasion, description).

# Grading Policy

Students receive one grade in English, which will be determined on an accumulating point basis.

# Homework Absentee Policy

For each day a student has an excused absence, he/she will have the same length of time to make up homework, with no penalty in grade. Part of the junior high experience includes becoming more personally responsible; therefore, it is the student’s responsibility to obtain all make up work. There is a system in place for students to access any missed work, as well as a website that details daily work. If a student misses school for several days due to illness, the Cavitt website should be checked. Students can also request copies of missed assignments. An independent study contract is required for any student that will miss five or more school days. This contract must be requested several days in advance of the expected absence, and all work must be turned in the day the student returns from the days off. Incomplete independent studies contracts will receive no credit, and no make up work will be accepted.

# Homework Late Policy

Assignments are expected the day they are due. Assignments that are turned in one day late will receive no better than 70% of grade earned. Two or more days late will receive no better than 50% credit. Unusual circumstances will be taken into consideration. Please encourage your student’s responsibility by supporting the consequences set up. **This late policy does not apply to journals. No late journals will be accepted.**

**Discipline:**  All students are expected to abide by Cavitt Junior High’s rules as listed in the student handbook and to respect each other’s rights. Impeding a student’s ability to learn or a teacher’s ability to teach will result in disciplinary action. Students will adhere to the following classroom rules:

* 1. **Keep hands, feet, and objects to oneself.**
	2. **Come to class with necessary materials.**
	3. **Remain in seat unless given permission to move.**
	4. **Show respect to people and property.**
	5. **Keep food, gum, candy, and drinks out of the classroom (water is okay).**

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**Please read and discuss these rules, expectations, and policies with your student. Sign and return the bottom section of this page.**

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**Parent/ guardian’s signature Student’s signature Date**