

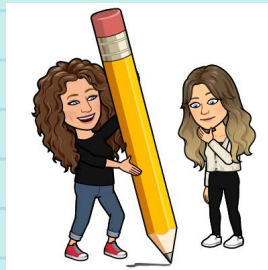
# 8th Grade English Language Arts

## SYLLABUS FOR THE CLASS 2022-2023

### All About Your Teachers

My name is Jennifer Graham and this is my 20th year teaching in the Jackson School District. Before teaching, I worked in book publishing! I am married, I have a 16-year old son, two cats, and a doggo. I enjoy books, the beach, and baking. I look forward to sharing my love of literacy with you!

Mrs. Jenna Trocchio will continue her maternity leave into the 22-23 school year. Filling in for her is Ms. Allison O'Hara, who has been through the Jackson School District herself; including Goetz Middle School!



### A Typical Day in my Classroom











- ✓ Whole group and small group reading and writing practice
- ✓ Independent and partner work
- ✓ Lots of sharing
- ✓ Chromebooks are used frequently!
- ✓ Work is organized by week and day on Google Classroom. Any handouts you miss when absent are kept in the folders by the homework board.

### Classroom Behavioral Expectations

We will model respect and empathy and this is also expected of the students.





- Be on time.
- Be prepared.
- Raise your hand to speak; listen to what others have to say.
- Cell phone policy: phones are away with sound muted unless you are given permission to use them. Phones are taken if they are being misused.

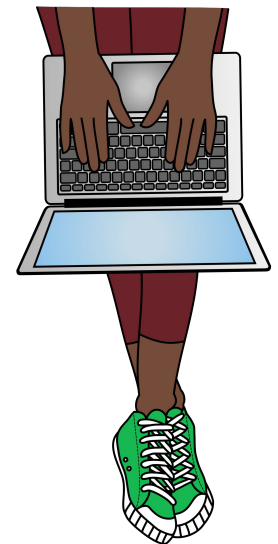
### Materials Needed Daily

-  Fully charged Chromebook
-  Composition notebook
-  3-subject notebook & folder
-  Post-It notes
-  Pencils & pens
-  highlighter
-  Glue stick/crayons
-  Book you are currently reading

...and just as importantly, a good attitude and a great sense of humor!

*Stay connected!* How to find out what's going on in my classroom.

-  Google Classroom for all work.
-  Our teacher pages on the Goetz website
-  Join our Remind.
-  E-mail: [jagraham@jacksonsd.org](mailto:jagraham@jacksonsd.org)  
[aohara@jacksonsd.org](mailto:aohara@jacksonsd.org)



# Mrs. Graham's 8th Grade English Language Arts

## All About How We Teach Language Arts

We are proponents of the Reading and Writing workshop models and choice in student reading. However, we also see the value in a shared text, so we will use the anthology at times and read literature together from other sources throughout the year. We will continue to identify Signposts in the works we read in order to strengthen comprehension.

We will take notes together and participate in mini-lessons followed by independent, small group, and partner work. Lesson ideas will transfer to their independent text choices and writing work. Grammar and vocabulary will be a focus as well. We will also practice writing our names in script! *Hooray!*

## Units of Study

1. Nonfiction reading
2. Literature and fiction
3. Speaking and Listening
4. Novel studies
5. Research Writing
6. Narrative Writing
7. Literary Analysis
8. Research Speech
9. Socratic Seminar
10. Grammar/mechanics



## Grading

30%

Tests, Projects,  
Essays

No. 2

20%

Quizzes, some  
writings

No. 2

30%

Participation

No. 2

20%

Homework

No. 2

Participation includes  
being prepared for class!

No. 2

## More Grading Information





Grading scale:

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	65-69

Any score of 64 and below is considered failing.

Late work can be turned in the next day ONLY for half credit. After that it becomes a zero. If you are absent, you have the same number of days to make up any missed work. Ex: if you are out for 3 days, you have 3 days to hand in the missed work.

## Technology Policy: Basics

-  Chromebooks belong to the SCHOOL.
-  Any misuse will result in loss of Chromebook privileges and a write up.
-  Chromebook time is meant for classwork ONLY, not gaming. (This is misuse.)
-  School e-mail is for academic purposes only. NO PERSONAL MESSAGING.

## Homework:

Anything not completed in class will become homework.

Students will read each day in class and complete a digital book response every Friday as part of their grade.

Vocabulary and grammar practice will also be assigned for homework. Homework and long-term projects will be posted in Google Classroom.