

Welcome to  
*8<sup>th</sup> Grade Literacy*  
Mrs. Closius  
2021 - 2022



# About Mrs. Closius

- Excited To Start Ninth Year At Goetz/Seventeenth Year Teaching
- Passionate About Growing Your Child's Love of Reading & Writing
  - Disney-Loving, Coffee-Drinking, Book-Reading, Mom of two boys





*Should you ever have any  
questions or concerns, please  
don't hesitate to contact me:*  
[kfclosius@jacksonsd.org](mailto:kfclosius@jacksonsd.org)

**732-833-4610**



# Welcome to Literacy

- Follow a “Workshop” format, in which students will apply a variety of reading and writing skills and strategies daily.
- Participate in one-to-one teacher conferencing, group activities, independent practice and oral presentations.





# Addressing Curriculum

## Teaching aligned with Common Core Content Standards

- Regular practice with complex texts and their academic language
- Reading, writing, and speaking grounded in evidence from texts, both literary and information
- Building knowledge through content-rich nonfiction



# Our typical day...

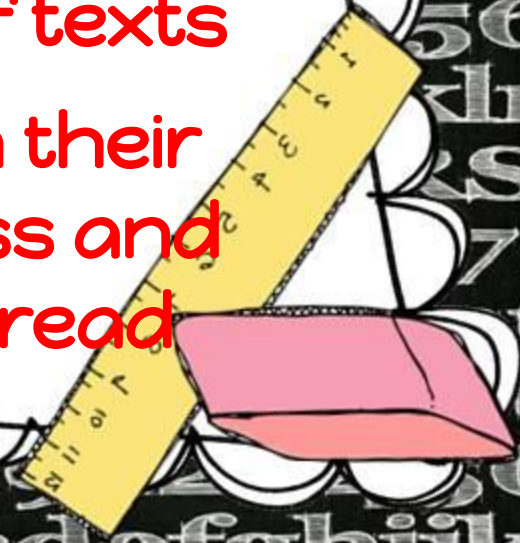
|            |  |
|------------|--|
| 10 Minutes | Independent Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Teacher Conferencing</li></ul>                                     |
| 10 Minutes | Independent Writing  |
| 20 Minutes | Teacher-Led Mini-Lesson "I Do" <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reading or Writing Focused Skill and Strategy</li></ul> |
| 45 Minutes | Independent/Group Practice "You Do"  |
| 5 Minutes  | Share/Reflection on Learning   |





# Reading Workshop

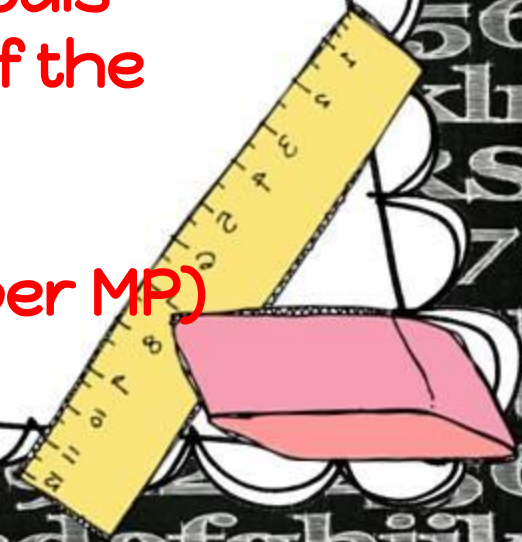
- Develop critical thinking skills when reading and responding to fiction, nonfiction, and poetry
- Focus on reading complex texts
- Exposure to a wide variety of texts
- Students will be evaluated on their ability to comprehend, discuss and write about what they have read



# Reading Workshop

## "Mrs. Closius' 30 Book Challenge"

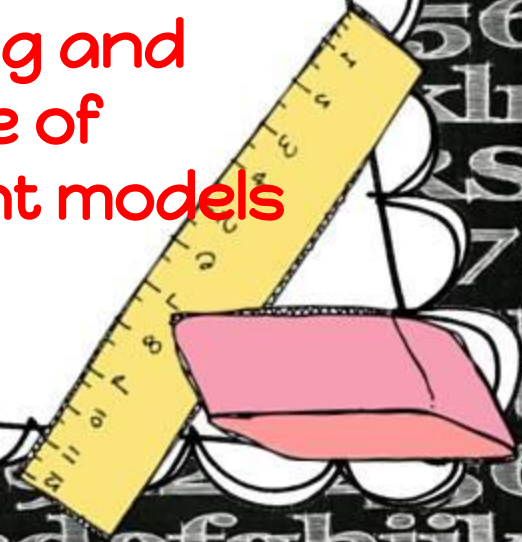
- Encourages students to read more for enjoyment
- Exposes children to expand reading horizons - genre requirements
- Sets individual monthly reading goals
- Held accountable for the quality of the reading, not quantity
  - Weekly Reading Conferences
  - Book Reviews/Book Talks (1 per MP)





# Writing Workshop

- Find voice as a writer when composing Literary Analysis, Research Tasks, Narrative Pieces and Creative Writing
- The writing process will be modeled and practiced throughout the year
- Grammar and vocabulary instruction will take place throughout the Reading and Writing Workshop through the use of mentor texts, teacher and student models



# Homework

- Not given every night/long-term assignments
  - Reflecting on Reading/Writing
  - “Article of the Week”
- May include reading passages, grammar exercises, vocabulary, writing, etc.
- Incomplete classwork FINISHED at home
- Late assignments WILL be accepted with a penalty of 15 points off per day





# Grading Policy

## Literacy (per DISTRICT mandates)

- Assessments - 50%
  - Tests - 30%
  - Quizzes - 20%
- Graded Classwork - 25%
- Homework - 20%
- Participation/Effort - 5%



# Technology

- Use Google Classroom (via Chromebooks or BYOD) as a platform to assign and submit assignments throughout the year
- REMIND app used for important updates and events
- Important information and resources will be posted to our class page on the Goetz website

<http://www.jacksonsd.org/Domain/640>





*"I want students to be able to say these things when they leave me: I am a worthwhile person; I deserve a place on this earth. I am successful. I am ready for whatever the world throws at me - today and tomorrow."*

**-Roberta Ford**

