

Dear Parents & Guardians,

My name is Brett I. Kier (Mr. B) and I will be taking over Ms. Platte's classes for the remainder of the spring 2019 semester. You may recall that I also taught the last 2 weeks of Ms. Platte's fall 2018 classes. Accordingly, students are familiar with my expectations and teaching style. We now have 13 weeks to establish a stable and successful learning environment for all students, and it is my commitment to you to do my best to support them. My teaching approach is best described as firm but fair; and my primary expectation is that students strive for their personal best. I am looking forward to working together again, and am confident that with your support, your child can finish the school year strong.

COURSE SYLLABUS

*This document serves as an **addendum** to the previous syllabus students received at the start of the semester, and where applicable, **revises** previous classroom policies as it relates to the information outlined below. Policies and procedures not addressed below may also undergo revision if they are not in the best interests of students, given the transition in leadership taking place.*

Course Description:

English 9 is a one-year course that surveys the basic literary genres of the novel, poetry, short story, nonfiction and drama. It also provides practice with the writing process which stresses pre-writing, drafting, peer sharing and responding, revising and editing. Students respond to texts by speaking and writing. The writing component includes expository compositions such as literary analysis, argumentative and persuasive essays. A prescribed method for writing literary analysis essays is introduced and MLA format is taught through the completion of a fully documented research paper. Through Socratic Seminar, students learn to pose and respond to questions in order to initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions.

Communication:

- You can contact me via email at brettkier@ccusd.org.
- Visit the class website (biknotes.com) for assignments, due dates, and course materials.

VISIT AERIES
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ASSIGNMENTS

Texts:

- *Romeo and Juliet*, William Shakespeare
- *Animal Farm*, George Orwell
- A variety of essays, speeches, and non-fiction handouts

Expectations:

- Be productive
- Be professional
- Follow the Golden Rule

Late Policy:

- All work is due the moment you enter the classroom.
- Late work will be accepted **1 day late only**, and will be **penalized 20%** off the final grade for the assignment.
- If absent, students may turn in assignments **1 day late without penalty**.

Academic Integrity:

- Cheating and/or plagiarism will result in a failing grade, and potentially more serious consequences.

Materials Needed (Bring to class every day):

- Notebook or 3-ring binder with loose leaf to take notes
- Required texts
- Pen/pencil, highlighter

Student Name: (please print *Last*) _____ (*First*) _____

Period: _____

STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

I have reviewed the course syllabus for English 9; I clearly understand it and will abide by it.

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

I have reviewed the course syllabus for English 9; I clearly understand it and will support my student(s) to abide by it.

Parent/Guardian Name (please print *Last*) _____ (*First*) _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date _____

Parent phone numbers:

Home _____

Mobile _____

Work _____

Parent Email Address:

_____ and/or _____

Questions, Comments?