

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade ELAR Syllabus 2019-2020

Welcome to the 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Driscoll Middle School! We're excited to have you in the ELAR (English/Language Arts and Reading) class and want to help you make this a successful year. Together, we will have many rewarding experiences as we embark on a journey through literature and creative writing that will open your eyes to new people, places and ideas.

### Expectations:

Students are expected to be respectful and responsible. These are two qualities necessary to being a thoughtful participant in the world, and they are guiding principles for our community of learning. Showing respect means treating others the way you wish to be treated. Being responsible means bringing all necessary materials to class, arriving ready to work, and being seated when the bell rings.

### Materials:

Students will be required to have the following for class: one pocket folder and one spiral notebook, which will be kept in the classroom. Additionally, students need to bring their binder containing paper, dividers, something to write with (**pencils and pens**), and a book to read. Students will have a section in their binder titled ELAR for transporting homework and any other important paperwork to and from school.

The use of cell phones in the school building is **not** allowed at all during school hours (from 7:50-3:45). They should be powered **off** (not just silenced).

### Grading:

Parents are strongly encouraged to sign up for the NEISD Parent Portal (Skyward Family Access), which allows access to grades and other information about student progress via the Internet. This allows parents and students to find more information on this system. Visit the NEISD website where directions can be found under the "Parents" heading. Please make sure to periodically check our websites.

There will be two categories for which students will be given grades. One category contains grades from homework assignments, daily grades and quizzes. The second category will include grades from in-class projects, tests and essays. So that the grades from the second category have greater weight upon students' overall averages, they will be counted twice. Categories will look like this:

Category 1 - 60%

Category 2 - 40%

Homework Grades	In-Class Project Grades
Daily Grades	Test Grades
Quiz Grades	Essays Grades

Late work will be handled according to the NEISD Student Handbook policy.

### **Make-up Work:**

Students must assume the responsibility for obtaining their own make-up work. Once agendas are available on the teacher's website, students will be able to see what was covered in class or missed when they were absent. School policy allows students one day for every excused absence to make up missed assignments. It is the student's responsibility to ask the teacher for missed work and additional support to complete these assignments.

### **Homework:**

Throughout the year, there may be homework to reinforce work started in class. Students may also be asked to simply read 20 minutes for homework. It will be their responsibility to ensure assignments are completed and turned in on time. Missed or late homework will negatively affect a student's grade.

### **Course Description:**

The scope and sequence of ELAR assignments will follow the NEISD curriculum guide while addressing the essential questions developed for each 9-week grading period. Each child will be encouraged to develop a love of reading as we work on sharpening reading comprehension and writing process skills. Students will read and write every day in a variety of genres and on many different topics. What makes ELAR class unique to other classes, is that is organized into a 90-minute block. Students will remain in the same classroom for two full periods to allow time for instruction in both Reading and Writing.

### **Tutoring:**

Tutoring for my class will be available Monday and Wednesday mornings from 7:50-8:15 am (requires a pass from the teacher) and Tuesdays after school until 4:15.

It is our hope that students enjoy the time they spend in their ELAR class. Through reading we gain the freedom to learn, and through writing we uncover who we are. Together, they give us the ability to make discoveries, explore the world, and see our universe through the eyes of others.

### **Special Note**

I am VERY allergic to perfumes and colognes - especially Axel! - and respectfully request that you DO NOT wear, bring, or spray perfume or cologne in or near my class!

Sincerely,

Danica Coryell  
[dcorye@neisd.net](mailto:dcorye@neisd.net)  
Driscoll Middle School (210)356-3200



