Mrs. Parker Cheatham Elementary

8th Grade Language Arts 2016-2017

**Introduction/Background:**

 Hello parents/guardians and students! My name is Mrs. Stephanie Parker. I am an Arizona native and one of three children. I earned my Bachelor’s degree in Secondary Education at Arizona State University and I am currently pursuing my Master’s degree in education. I am deemed to be ‘highly qualified’ to teach Reading and Writing to middle school students. This is my 7th year teaching full-time and 6th year teaching at Cheatham teaching 8th grade Language Arts. I am very lucky to be able to teach my two greatest passions: reading and writing.

**Grading Scale:**

A-90 – 100 % Tests/Exams/Quizzes 15%

B-80 – 89.9 % In-class Work\* 25%

C-70 – 79.9 % Projects/Essays 25%

D-60 – 69.9 % Homework\* 25%

 Participation/Behavior 10%

\* Some work will be given with the expectation that students finish in class, and in the event they do not finish in class, they will be expected to finish that work on their own time. Assignments given at the end of the class period will be classified as Homework and will be expected to be completed at home.

**Absent/Late Work Policy:**

I do not give out assignments in advance, other than assigned reading, if the student knows he/she will be absent. I only accept late work if the student has an excused absence. It is the responsibility of the STUDENT to visit the absent folders and turn in missed work.

**\*Under normal circumstance the students will have homework Monday-Thursday, on occasion the students will be assigned Friday and weekend homework for projects and essays.**

**Classroom Rules/Expectations:**

At Cheatham we believe in positive proactive form of management. In my classroom we will follow the P.A.W.S. mantra. All students will be expected to practice respect, responsibly, work together and be safe

**Classroom Rule:**

1. **Be appropriate.**

**Classroom expectations:**

1. **Respect is given not earned.**
2. **To be considered on time and be able to earn a “2” (to be counted towards participation grade), you must be in your seat and take out: agenda, INB and homework before the final buzzer sounds.**
3. **Stay on task; use time wisely.**
4. **Raise your hand silently to leave your seat, or if you have any: questions, comments or concerns.**
5. **Respect quiet signals: “Class Class”, or music all the way up and then back down, means I want your full attention and noise level ZERO.**

**Consequences:**

1. **Verbal/visual warning.**
2. **Behavior logged into Minor Behavior Infraction Tracker-Teacher calls home**
3. **Buddy room and reflection sheet-Teacher calls home**
4. **Administrative action and referral.**

**\*The teacher reserves the right to skip any steps and assign after school/lunch detentions.\***

 I believe that a genuine connection between parents/guardians and a teacher is the key to having a student that: learns, grows and thrives. I will be calling you for good news, updates and concerns. There are several ways of reaching me if you have good news, or concerns:

Phone: 602-237-7040 ex. 3472

Email: szaleski@laveeneld.org.

***Non-negotiable Supply List:***

***The students need these EVERY DAY:***

**- Writing utensils (Pen/Pencil),** they need one **every day,** they will **NOT** be provided by the teacher at any point throughout the year. It is suggested that these writing supplies be replenished once a quarter

-**8 college ruled 1 subject spiral notebook** (2 for each class, 1 used each semester)

- One 3” inch binder

**Additional Suggested Supply List:**

- 2 different colored Highlighters

-1 roll of scotch tape

-1 dry erase marker

-1 pack of markers or colored pencils

-1 ruler

-Pencil pouch

**\*Classroom Donations for extra credit:**

**Printer paper, box of tissue, Scotch tape, and number 2 pencils.**

***Dear Parents/Guardians,***

 ***Please help your student fill out items 1-10, and thank you for all that you do to contribute to our learning community!***

***1. For your students first homework assignment they must bring to school your daytime number and email address or a note explaining the lack of either!***

***2. Student Name (please print):***

***3. Class Period (circle 1): 8A 8B 8C***

***4. Parent/Guardian Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

**5. \*\*\*\*Please send me an email and tell me about your child’s (my new student) strengths, weaknesses and areas of concern. It is great to get the lines of communication open immediately\*\*\*\***

***6. Parent/Guardian Day Time Phone Number(s):***

***7. Parent/Guardian Evening Phone Number(s):***

**8.** As a teacher at Cheatham I am required to get parental permission to show any movie that is PG/ PG-13 (R rated movies are not allowed) or novel sets to be used outside of our textbooks. Instead of contacting you every time I want to show a movie or start a new novel, here is a list of the potential movies/novels we will be diving into this year:

Bully the Documentary, Charly, The Diary of Anne Frank, Biography of Helen Keller, The Giver by Lois Lowry, Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury, Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli and Speak by Laurie Halse Anderson .

 . Yes it is okay for my child to view these movies/read these novels

 . No it is not okay for my child to view these movies/read these novels (Please List below):

9**. X** (Parent/Guardian signature)

10. **X**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Student Signature)