



WELCOME TO 8TH GRADE ENGLISH!

We are so excited for the 2019-2020 school year! Our team has worked all summer with our colleagues to prepare the best learning and academic experiences for you! We will continue to support you all year.

OVERVIEW

Our names are Mr. McManus, Ms. Donlon, and Ms. Hammond. We will be your English teachers for the 2019-2020 school year. In the eighth grade, the English class will focus on language, reading and literature, composition, and media as described in the New York Common Core Curriculum Framework for English Language Arts and Literacy. You will be reading some exciting – and challenging books –, dealing with timely and important concepts such as universal refugee experience, injustice and racism. We will be working to make your writing and thinking stronger as you explore these issues and help you to further develop your own unique voice.

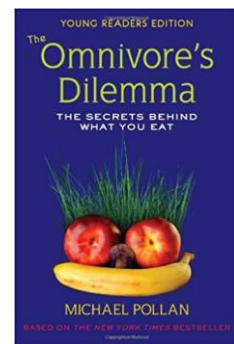
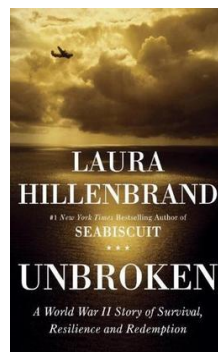
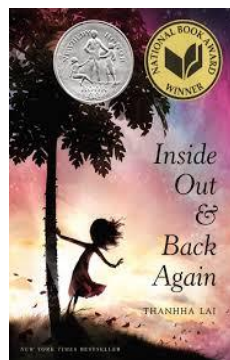
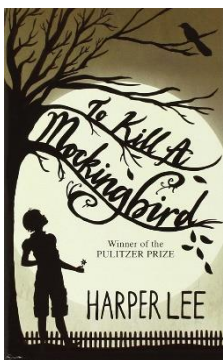
WHAT YOU WILL NEED EVERY DAY

Each student will need to bring the following to class every day:

- 1) a notebook (single subject)
- 2) a pen or a pencil
- 3) a homework folder (provided by your teachers)

The folder will be for English class only. You will carry your homework assignments in it back and forth to school. In addition, we will keep another folder in the classroom with the classwork we are working on currently, so you will be able to access it easily on a daily basis. Scholars will receive a cumulative writing folder that will be kept in the classroom. These folders will contain all of your formal writing assignments throughout the year and from years past. During the course of the year, students will return to certain works they produced earlier and make efforts to revise and improve them. Students will receive the folder to take home at the end of the year, but parents are welcome to check your folder at any time.

CENTRAL TEXTS FOR 8TH GRADE ENGLISH



HOMEWORK AND HELP

Homework will be assigned regularly. You will often be assigned learning activities that will continue work begun in class and will help us to assess how well you are progressing. We will also ask your parents to check to make sure you complete it every night. We try to make sure that homework assignments are not too long, and if you have worked for 20 minutes on an assignment and still not completed it, all we ask is that you have your parent/family member write a note to inform us that you worked for 20 minutes, and that was all you were able to finish. Homework assignments are not long, but they are essential so that you can come in prepared to excel in the work of the day ahead. You can expect to work on rough draft writing assignments at home. Please have your parent/family member check your homework assignments for completeness.

OUR GOALS FOR STUDENTS

Our goal is to help you improve your overall reading and writing skills, to make sure you are ready for high school and for the world of college and work that lies beyond. In order to achieve this goal, the classroom norms we create together will be strictly enforced by fellow students and teachers. You will be asked to bring home a contact information sheet to your parent/family member. Please make sure they include a daytime phone number and email address in case we need to reach them at any time during the school year. You should return this form to receive your first credit for homework.

TEACHER CONTACT INFORMATION

We will post major activities and assignments regularly at on our teacher websites: <https://www.rcsdk12.org/domain/3838> . We encourage you to check out the websites regularly to keep up with what we are doing in class, and you can also obtain copies of work there, if you accidentally misplace something.

Thank you for your time and attention. We look forward to getting to know you and your families over the course of the year. We hope that your parents can make it to Open House and Parent-Teacher Conference nights. If you or your parent do not understand a lesson or you have some questions about an assignment, feel free to call at school at anytime, or e-mail any of us –

Craig.McManus@rcsdk12.org

Margaret.Donlon@rcsdk12.org

Jennifer.Hammond@rcsdk12.org

All the best,

Your 8th grade English Teachers - Mr. McManus, Ms. Donlon and Ms. Hammond

Most of us can be reached on our shared classroom phone at any time during the day – (585) 328-7454

Vision of Dr. Charles T. Lunsford School #19

We are Lunsford Strong.

We are kind.

We are leaders.

We are dedicated.

We persevere.

We will change the world.



Mission of Dr. Charles T. Lunsford School #19

It is our mission to create a high quality, culturally relevant and supportive learning environment where we are inspired to become Lunsford Strong. The School 19 community will demonstrate our core values of kindness, leadership, and dedication. At School 19, students, families, school staff, and community members will work collaboratively to meet this goal. We will develop the knowledge, skills, and practices needed to have a positive impact on the world.