



EAGLE MOUNTAIN SAGINAW ISD

Fostering a Culture of Excellence

Dear Families,

Welcome to your seventh grade Humanities class! We are excited about our plans this year, and we look forward to working with you. This year we hope to support our students' development as critical readers and writers through multiple opportunities for them to engage with a variety of texts. By the end of this school year, our students will be prepared to enter eighth grade with the skills they need in order to be successful, insightful readers and writers.

In this course, we use Project Based Learning, or PBL, to help students to enhance their skills and deepen their knowledge. PBL motivates students to gain knowledge and remember it longer. PBL gives students the chance to apply the skills they learn in school to personally relevant and real-world situations. Your child also learns skills in PBL, such as how to think critically to create effective and innovative solutions, collaborate with peers, and communicate effectively in a variety of forms and settings. These skills will help students succeed in the future, both in school and in today's economy.

This unit establishes the level of rigor for the year by challenging the way students think. Students will be working through an incredible program called Think Law where they will study real world legal cases and make judgements about the outcome of the case by analyzing the legal precedent. Ultimately, the goal of this unit is for students to learn to think critically and make connections between the words on the page and the world around them. They will use this to write impassioned arguments for their side of the case in addition to evaluating the validity of our current laws and the real-life judgements of each case. In this unit, students will create a judicial decision correspondence essay to decide whether the sentence was appropriate as they evaluate the judge's decision.

We encourage you to speak with your students about what they are reading, writing, and learning in class. Please be sure to review your student's performance via Skyward Access and contact his or her teacher if you have any questions or concerns. We look forward to working with you this year!

Respectfully,

EMS-ISD 7th Grade GT Humanities Teachers