



7th Grade ELAR

Mrs. Christian

pchristian@ems-isd.net

Remind:

Send a text to **81010**, the message will be: **@k8d92h8eb4**

Conference Period: 1st period (8:20am-9:07am)

Tutoring Opportunities:

Mornings –Friday AM, 7:45am-8:15am

After School – Monday, Wednesday

Class Materials:

- Folder
- Composition book
- Pencils
- Colored Pens
- Tissue
- Notebook Paper
- Highlighters

Access to Canvas and Office365 tools is available to students through our [Single Sign-on Portal \(SSO\)](#). Students receive their SSO login during enrollment.

Course Description:

407021 – **English Language Arts 7** Provides the student with knowledge of the structure and patterns of language. Usage skills develop the student's ability to speak and write effectively. Instruction in written communication focuses on the development of well planned, coherent compositions written for a variety of audiences and purposes. Reading skills include vocabulary development, comprehension, organization, and study skills. Research skills are introduced. Taken with 407041

Course

A central goal of the English language arts and reading (ELAR) department is to establish and support a consistent reading habit in the busy lives of students, which is **a shared partnership between teachers, students, and parents**. In ELAR classes, students will engage in both required and self-selected texts. Through both assigned and independent reading, students will continue to develop their confidence, build vocabulary, increase reading fluency and stamina, and improve their writing skills.

Goals:

Student Evaluation:

The grading system for this course is as follows:

- Grade averaged 60% Major 40% Minor
 - Major grades – tests (including District Common Assessments, projects, final essays, research papers, presentations); minimum three per six weeks
 - Minor grades – quizzes, daily assignments, journals; minimum four per six weeks
 - Each six weeks will count as 1/3 of the semester grade.
 - A letter system (S, N, U) is used to report a student’s conduct based on proper/responsive conduct and citizenship
 - Per Board Policy EIA (LOCAL), “The District shall permit a student who meets the criteria detailed in the grading guidelines a reasonable opportunity to redo an assignment or retake a test for which the student received a **failing** grade. This policy applies only to initial identified major grades and does not apply to daily assignments and quizzes. Upon reteach and retest, the new test, project, etc. recorded will be a high score of 70%.
 - Official grades will be in Skyward only and can be accessed by student and parent through Family Access.
- **Assignments, exams, expectations outside of the classroom:**
Expectations outside of the classroom will consist of independent reading of personally chosen novel from Library or classroom library. The goal is to foster a love for reading both in the classroom and out of the classroom. Homework will be minimal and primarily used for assignments that students were not able to finish in class. Students are expected to use tutorials and make up time in class as well for assignments that are missing or late. CANVAS and Microsoft 365 will be used as the digital tool to support the learning.

Attendance/Tardy Policy/Make-Up Work:

Tardy Policy: Students are given adequate time during passing periods to travel from class to class. Tardies will be cumulative and will result in consequences if it is a repeated behavior. The first tardy will be a warning, the second will result in a call home. After the second tardy, will result in consequences from administration. The 3rd and 4th tardy will result in lunch detention, 5th tardy will result in after school detention. Six tardies or more will result in In School Suspension.

Make Up Work: Students will be expected to make up work that was missed during absences. They will be responsible for obtaining the assignment from the designated folder in the classroom and turning in the assignment within 3 days from their return. (If more time is needed, the student is expected to communicate this with their teacher). Tutorials can be used for clarification on assignments missed.

Classroom Expectations:

Each student is expected to be on time and prepared to class. This includes bringing needed supplies and assignments, being respectful of teachers and peers and being responsible and accountable for their learning. Students are responsible for choosing their own independent books. If they begin reading a book and uncomfortable subjects arise, it is their responsibility to stop reading the book, put it up and select another book of their choosing.

Preliminary Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Assignments

1st Six Weeks:

Building a Foundation

Establishing Workshop Routines

- Establish the routines of Reader’s Workshop, select independent texts, monitor comprehension, and reflect as a reader
- Writing Realistic Fiction

Academic Integrity: Update from GRH

Academic integrity values the work of individuals regardless if it is another student's work, a researcher, or author. The pursuit of learning requires each student to be responsible for his or her academic work. Academic dishonesty is not tolerated in our schools. Academic dishonesty, includes cheating, copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty shall be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or other supervising professional employee and considers written materials, observation, or information from students. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to disciplinary and/or academic penalties. The teacher and campus administrator shall jointly determine such action.

Mirroring Grades:

On your child's schedule and report card, parents and students will see a two-period course (ELAR 7A/ELAR 7B or ELAR 7A/ELAR 7B) so that teachers can interweave reading and writing seamlessly. Therefore, these grades will be mirrored in both courses. In the event that these two blocks are split across two teachers, these teachers will be planning and communicating closely with each other so that grades can still closely match.

A Little About Me:

I am so excited to start the 2022-2023 school year! I anticipate a lot of learning and growth from your students, both on an academic and social level. This is my first year at Highland Middle School, but my 9th teaching and my 11th year in education. I previously taught 5th and 6th grade, in Keller ISD and in the Houston area.

I am married to my college sweetheart, and we have one daughter who just started her freshman year at University of Oklahoma. We are avid fans of college football (Go Sooners!) and love to go places with our rescued shelter dog, Smush. I love to read and trying new restaurants.

Please feel free to contact me at any time with questions or concerns related to your child. I will do my best to answer and help in any way that I can.