8th Grade English Language Arts

Ms. Zocchi

(pronounced Zah-Key)

Website for homework and handouts: [www.zocchi.weebly.com](http://www.zocchi.weebly.com)  
Email: [carolz@brookings.k12.ca.us](mailto:carolz@brookings.k12.ca.us)

Welcome to the 8th grade! This year we want to prepare students for high school and beyond, so we are raising expectations and experiences, including daily lessons in technology and digital citizenship. Any parent or student who would like additional support using the internet, netiquette (social rules) for online communication, social media, emailing, Google classrooms, basic smart phone academic connections, and word processing tricks, please make an appointment with me after school.

**SUPPLIES – Students must have:**

* Azalea planner with passport
* English binder with English section OR notebook
* Binder or notebook pocket for handouts
* Paper, lined
* AR book that is NOT a movie
* Writing utensils (pencils, pens, highlighters)
* Water bottle (water only)

**HOMEWORK – 30-60 minutes per night:**

* AR reading – minimum of two books per quarter (read every night)
* Vocabulary – minimum of 10 min per day on Quizlet or Vocabulary.com
* Grammar – minimum of 10 min per day online review
* Writing – minimum of 10 min per day writing practice

\*While homework will be accepted late without penalty, students will be kept in Advisory when homework is lost, incomplete or not to academic standards.

**ELECTRONIC DEVICES – We will use technology every day:**

I welcome use of personal devices (cell phones, iPods, iPods, Kindle’s, e-readers). They are to be out and in airplane mode if used in class until directed. I will temporarily confiscate any device used for non-academic use in the following time-frame:

1st in class offense – student must pick up from my desk at the end of the period

2nd in class offense – student must pick up from my desk at the end of the DAY

3rd in class offense – student must pick up from office during office hours\*

4th in class offense – parent must pick up from office during office hours\*

\*note that if the student has reached a 3rd offense in a DIFFERENT class, they may be on step 4 with me.

**PARENTS - How parents can support student success:**

* Provide regular homework/study space and time (set timers and ensure quiet locations)
* Check homework nightly – students show you completed work and place in binder and backpack
* Check websites for daily agendas – ask students about their favorite subject, class, teacher
* Check weekly grades online – give rewards and set consequences for achievement
* Regularly read with students daily - newspapers, ESPN, health articles, DYI for home projects
* Allow access to the internet in a safe, open space (kitchen, living room) for homework and research

( time-controlled logins, safe web-search restrictions)

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| **Have PRIDE in EVERYTHING you do!**  (Classrooms, Gym, Auditorium, Labs, Field Trips) | |
| Pride | Keep it clean; participate positively; engage in learning; celebrate accomplishment. |
| Responsibility | Value and take pride in your own work; be on time; use technology appropriately; be accountable for yourself and your actions. |
| Integrity | Be honest and follow through on your commitments; submit original work. Take responsibility for your academic success. |
| Dignity/Diversity | Help others; value others’ perspectives; look for opportunities to grow; show empathy for others. |
| Excellence | Be prepared and be on time; finish what you start; give your best effort no matter what you do. |

**GRADING SCALE**

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| **Standards** | **Score** | **Grading Rubric Criteria** |
| **Exceeds** | **4** | The student scores a 4 on work samples, makes in-depth inferences and extended applications of grade level standards, is able to teach others, and able to demonstrate with a high rate of accuracy of knowledge in multiple ways |
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| **Proficient** | **3** | The student scores a 3 on work samples, and consistently applies grade level content standards at a high rate of accuracy (no gap in knowledge and skills even if there are a few minor errors). |
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| **Working Towards the Standard** | **2** | Student scores a 2 on work samples. No major errors regarding the simpler details and processes, and some of the more complex ideas and processes. Student has understanding and can consistently do most of what is asked on grade level content standards (some minor gaps in knowledge and skills). |
| **Not Yet Proficient** | **1** | A partial understanding of some of the simpler details and processes, but major errors or omissions regarding the more complex details and processes. Student has some understanding and can do some of what is asked on grade level content standards (major gaps in knowledge and skills). |
| **Not Assessed / Insufficient Evidence** | **0** | No evidence or insufficient evidence of student learning. Student has been absent or has provided no data in which to make a decision about their understanding of the learning target. |
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I have read Zocchi’s syllabus and will abide by the student and parent conduct code according to Azalea Middle School Handbook and this syllabus.

Print Student’s Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Parent’s Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s Email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_