August 21, 2018

Dear SRA Parents/Guardians and Students,

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year at Snowy Range Academy. I am looking forward to going on a journey of growth and learning as we explore various aspects of literature in middle school language arts. Middle school is a crucial time for students as they are preparing for high school and beyond. It is my goal to provide instruction for students to ensure that they are prepared to succeed in the next stage of their lives. I believe in incorporating critical thinking skills, communication, collaboration, and innovation into daily lessons. It is vital for students to learn these skills in the classroom so that they can use them effectively in their next phase of life and as a well-rounded citizen.

We have an amazing opportunity, through Core Knowledge Curriculum, to read a wide variety of dramas, classic novels, nonfiction, and poetry. Throughout their middle school career, students will be exposed to authors such as Homer, Mark Twain, Emily Dickinson, Langston Hughes, Edgar Allan Poe, Anne Frank, T.S. Eliot, Jack London, George Orwell, Robert Louis Stevenson, and Maya Angelou. Through the reading of these selections, I hope to help students gain a greater appreciation for literature.

In addition to reading, students will continue to gain writing skills throughout the year. Students will learn to craft various genres of writing, such as literary analysis, short stories, nonfiction essays, and poems. Writing assignments will align with the Core Knowledge texts. In addition, middle school students are required to complete one literary analysis essay per semester. The expectations of the essay will be reviewed thoroughly in class.

The Writing Center will also be available to students this year. Students may sign up to get extra help on writing assignments in any class on a first-come, first-serve basis. The sign up sheet will be located outside the Language Arts/Social Studies room.

Middle school students will have homework almost every night. Students should expect assigned reading every night. Writing projects will also require some out of class work. Students will have spelling quizzes every Friday and grammar quizzes every other Friday. Students should study spelling and grammar for a few minutes each night.

I have a class website for all middle school language arts classes (listed below). If your student is absent, please refer to the calendar on the website to see what was missed in class. You will be able to find most PowerPoints and worksheets that we complete in class on the website. I usually update the website at the end of each school day. Please refer to the website for any information regarding middle school language arts.

I am looking forward to a fun, yet challenging, school year! Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Bossert

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Parents, after reading this letter, please sign and return to school with your student to acknowledge that you have read and understood the information provided.

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Parent/Guardian Name Signature Student Name