**Welcome to English III**

Dear Parents and Students,

 Welcome to JUNIOR YEAR and American Literature! I am excited to work with you. This year we will work to help prepare students for college and career readiness by concentrating on developing students’ skills in the areas of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Please visit my website often; there are helpful links and information concerning all aspects of the course. I look forward to a great year!

Dianne Wright

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 Supplies: Students should be come to *every* class with appropriate text and supplies.

 Current novel

 3 ring binder with 4 dividers

 Blue or black pens and #2 pencils

 Colored pencils or markers

Highlighters

PHS agenda

Sticky Notes

Notebook paper (college-ruled)

Flash Drive if you do not use Google

1st Semester Supplemental Texts:

*The Crucible –* Arthur Miller

*Their Eyes Were Watching God –* Zora Neal Hurston

*The Great Gatsby* – F. Scott Fitzgerald

These can be purchased at Barnes and Noble at the Arboretum using the voucher provided. A small percentage of the proceeds will be given to the PHS English Department. Some PHS copies are available, but they can only be used in the classroom. All of our supplemental texts, poems, stories, etc. can be easily found online.

Attendance and tardy policy:

The easiest way for students to succeed in this class is to BE PRESENT. When a student is absent, they miss important class information and discussion. They also may miss opportunities to work in the media center. The absence policy for the class follows the CMS and PHS guidelines. Tardy policy is as follows:

* Please be in your seats when the tardy bell rings.
* 2 tardies = lunch detention with me
* 3 tardies = PHS policy states students are to receive SMC; however, I will allow students to serve detention with me within three days of the third tardy.

 Rules:

1. Water is allowed. Please, no food or other beverages!
2. Restroom/Water/Nurse – you will receive 2 passes to use as needed during the semester without making up the time. You may use the restroom at other times, but you will need to come in before school or after school to make up the time you missed.
3. Respect everyone in the classroom.
4. Behave in a professional manner: be prepared, be on time, participate, expect to make mistakes, be honest, be considerate, use appropriate language, do your own work, and adhere to the dress code.
5. **Cheating results in a 0 the first time and every time**. It may also result in parent conference, referral to guidance, or combination of the above. Plagiarism is cheating. Failure to use appropriate citations when paraphrasing is plagiarism.

Consequences: 1. Warning/Parent Contact 2. Afterschool/Lunch Detention 3. Referral to office; removal from class

Grading:

PowerSchool is our online gradebook program. You can access this at ANY time to see your progress in the class. If you do not know how to access PowerSchool, please call the front office and they will give you instructions. This year the Formal grade category is weighted 70% and includes projects, essays, tests, and quizzes. Please see Powershool for the weights of individual assignments. The Informal grade category is weighted 30% and includes homework, class work, weekly worksheets. For English III, the midterm in January will count 20% of the first semester grade. The Graduation Project (the junior paper) will count 40% of the 4th quarter as required by CMS. The final exam will count 25% of the final grade.

**Grading Policies for Major Assignments (not including the graduation project)**

\*\*\*Major assignments are given a week or more in advance of the due date\*\*\*

1. If a student is in class the day an assignment is made, the assignment is due on the assigned due date irrespective of whether the student is subsequently absent between the date of the assignment and the due date. Failure to hand in the assignment on the due date will result in the assignment being counted as late, and the student will loose 10 points per day until the assignment is turned in. Please note those 10 (ten) points will be deducted from the earned grade which may not necessarily result in a 90%.
2. You must turn in a hard copy AND submit assignment to turnitin.com. Failure to follow BOTH steps by the due date results in a 10 point penalty as described above. Students will receive their class ID password for turnitin.com.
3. MUST be typed
4. The assignment is due at the beginning of class. No one will be excused to print nor will a student be permitted to use the teacher’s computer. Plan accordingly.
5. No paperclips!
6. Late work requires a completed **Late Slip**.
7. Major assignments count as a formal test grade.

\*\*\*Major assignments are given a week or more in advance of the due date\*\*\*

**Grading Policies for Daily Assignments**

1. If a student is in attendance when the assignment was made for the next class period, a student is expected to submit the assignment at the beginning of the next class period. Homework submitted after that time (during class, at the end of class, or later in the day is considered late). Homework can be turned in for 50% of the earned grade and is due by the assignment cut off date as given in class for every quarter (usually about 1 week before grades are due).
2. Some homework must be typed such as vocabulary sentences, short essays, and reflections. Handwritten work will not be accepted for these assignments. Students will receive these instructions in class.
3. Late work requires completed **Late Slip** and must be placed in the **late work basket** and not on my desk. Daily late work will not be graded immediately.

Makeup Work:

Makeup work is due within 5 school calendar days (not A/B class period days). It is mandatory for the student to see me to make up a test or quiz. All make up tests and quizzes will be presented in a different format from the original test or quiz. There is a sign-up calendar in my room for students to schedule an appointment with me to find out what they missed due to absence.

Opportunities to Improve Grades and Tutoring: I do not give individual extra credit. Instead, I like to offer several opportunities for all the students to earn high grades for participating for class and/or group work. I enjoy working with students! Please sign up on the calendar for after school tutoring. If it is not a Wednesday, I am most likely available. Wednesdays are reserved for staff meetings.

Graduation Project:

CMS requires that every junior complete the Graduation Project paper. The research paper will be introduced in the English classes. I will help to guide students through the paper process, however, the majority of the paper is completed outside of school. It is very important that students work independently and meet each deadline in order to achieve the best results. Much more information will be given when the paper is introduced.

*Cut here and return the bottom portion to Mrs. Wright. Keep the top portion in your notebook for easy reference.*

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*BLOCK \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Print Student’s First and Last Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Parent Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Parent email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Best Parent Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*