Dear Students and Families,

Welcome to 12th grade English and a new school year at Neshaminy High School! I am excited about the opportunity to get to know you, and I am looking forward to a happy and productive school year.

 Course Overview

12th grade English class is a wonderful opportunity for students to grow as responsible and knowledgeable individuals. It is imperative that students remain focused, motivated and determined throughout the course of the year in order to experience success. We will be studying many types of literature this year, including novels, short stories, plays, and poetry. We will also be working extensively on developing fundamental writing and vocabulary skills.

**Required Materials**

Students are required to bring the following to class daily:

* three ring English binder / loose leaf paper (in binder) OR
* copybook
* folder (writing portfolio)- (I will provide)
* writing utensils

We will be referencing and working from the McDougal Littell textbook, The Language of Literature, as well as a variety of novels. Students will be responsible for the proper care of all textbooks and novels. All materials can also be found on my Weebly.

**Make Up Work/ Absences**

A student who is absent for an excused reason, will be given **one day** to make up work for each day he or she was absent. **It is the responsibility of the student** who was absent to obtain materials and information that were missed.

**Evaluation**

Each assignment will be worth a specific amount of points. Students may divide the total number of points earned by the total number of possible points in order to gain a better understanding of his or her grade throughout a marking period. Students and parents/guardians may also gain accessibility to grades and completion of assignments through E-School’s home access center.

Students will be evaluated on the following:

Homework: reading, questions, projects, essays, etc.

Classwork: prepared and participates in discussions, works positively in groups, completes in-class journals, puts effort into in-class assignments, etc.

Writing: timed writings, literature analysis essays, research paper, journals

Tests/ Quizzes: reading checks, quizzes and unit tests

Projects: in-class or at home assignments

**Senior Scrapbook**

One of the requirements for English 12 is to complete a senior scrapbook. Though some students balk, most find it a valuable and enjoyable project. This is a chance to collect items that are memorable to you as a senior in high school. It serves as a wonderful way to share your memories with your families someday. START COLLECTING NOW, so in MAY you are not at a loss!!!!

You must begin immediately. Collect items from the beginning, and it will be much easier later. Items such as schedules, handbooks, handouts etc. come in handy from the first day. Begin collecting suitable items including the following: sporting events memorabilia, remembrances from dances, contests, competitions, field trips/class trips, vacations, birthdays, family celebrations, job activities, ribbons, announcements, holidays, dates, pictures, programs, notes, cards, newspaper articles, receipts, payroll stubs, reports, buttons, invitations, clippings on local, national, and international news, special events and generally ANYTHING that happens while you are a senior. Please remember though, that items need to be suitable for sharing with both me and eventually, your family! Inappropriate items will detract from your book as well as your grade.

 It is not necessary to purchase fancy kits, but a good sturdy book or binder with adjustable binding and acid-free paper and plastic sleeves are important. Materials may be purchased at various stores in the area, such as A.C.Moore, Michael's, Kmart, as well as drugstores. Templates, fancy borders, sticky labels, colored paper, and markers add to the creativity and beauty of your book. This is a lasting treasure! You may also use Google Slides/Powerpoint or an online platform: Shutterfly/Mixbook/Snapfish etc...

Please begin saving items soon and place them in a box with notations as to their importance, dates, and names of people and places. You will be required to write about them. Later (MAY) I will remind you to start putting your book together and we will set aside a couple days for work in the classroom. At the end of the semester, we will have a scrapbook day for sharing.

 Enjoy the process and the product. It is well worth your time and effort. Please see me for help along the way.

**Rules and Procedures**

I have a few classroom rules and procedures that should be followed in order to allow for the best use of class time:

1. Always be prepared, in your seat before the bell rings. We have 45 minutes each day to accomplish many tasks. Being on time will allow us to include fun and interesting activities into class time.

1. Treat everyone, including yourself, with respect. You deserve to be treated as the wonderful person you are and so does everyone else around you. Pay compliments when you feel they are deserved and speak to everyone around you in a kind manner.

1. Work hard! I believe that hard work pays off. If you put 100% of your effort into anything you do for this class, I guarantee you will do well. If you ever feel yourself becoming frustrated or confused, it is your responsibility to see me. I will do whatever I can to help… that is my job. Again, if you concentrate and decide to do well… you will!

**Contact Information**

If any family member would like to reach me in order to discuss a student’s progress, I can be reached by calling the English Department at (215) 809-6679. My email address is mbauerle@neshaminy.org. I believe that parents and teachers should work as a team to ensure students are receiving the best education possible. Students will sign up for Remind 101, which is a text service. All family members are more than welcome to sign up as well.

Once again, welcome to 12th grade English and Neshaminy High School! Let us work together to make this a great year!

 Sincerely,

Mrs. Bauerle