Mr. Martin 8th Language Arts

***Expectations for Mr. Martin’s Classroom***

**1. When the bell rings, you’re ready to roll.**

When the bell to begin class rings, I expect everyone to be in, or go directly to, their assigned seat and be ready to begin class. Each student is responsible for bringing the textbooks, notebooks, assignments, and writing utensils he or she will need for class. You will always need your class binder and writing utensils. Other needed materials will be listed on the dry erase board outside the door. If a student is not prepared for class when the bell rings (out of seat, missing a book, forgot to bring homework), he or she may be given a demerit. A tardy will be considered as being outside the door when the bell rings.

**2. Always wait for permission to walk or talk.**

 When the teacher or a classmate is speaking, please show your respect by quietly listening. Do not talk when someone else has the floor. If you have a question or have something to add to a discussion, raise your hand and wait for me to call on you. Occasionally, the class will be asked to whisper or talk softly, but permission must be given first. If you need to get up, ask me first. However, if you need to grab a tissue or if it is an emergency, permission is not necessary. Talking or being out of your seat without permission can result in the issuing of a demerit.

**3. Always take a pass and sign out to leave the room.**

 The sign out sheet will be at the front of the room. Please fill it out correctly. Generally, I will only allow one person out of class at a time. Failing to sign out correctly and/or take a hall pass with you may result in a demerit.

4. **Always show respect for the people and things in this classroom.**

 This means no put downs and keep your hands to yourself. Be considerate of other’s feelings. Do not distract your classmates from listening or studying. **Be kind to everyone!** Treat everything in here (books, desks, walls, floors, etc.) with respect. Please do not leave trash on the floor. Violation of this rule can result in the issuing of a demerit.

**5. No gum, food, drinks, or use of personal items in class without permission.**

A student may carry water with them if they keep it out of the way. Personal items include cell phones, hand-held game devices, portable music players, and makeup. Again, violation of this rule will result in a demerit. Repeated violations will result in a detention.

**6. Follow all other guidelines outlined in the student guidebook.**

***\*\*\*Note: Should you wish to discuss any of the rules or the issuing of a demerit, I’ll be happy to talk with you. See me at the end of class, after class, or I’ll give you a pass to see me at another time.***

***Demerit Policy***

 Each time a student does not follow one of the classroom rules, they will earn a “demerit,” a checkmark on the class clipboard. If a student earns three demerits in a class period or six demerits in any three day span, they will be issued a detention and I will contact their parent/guardian. In the event that a student’s behavior is deemed extremely inappropriate, the demerit system will be ignored and the student will be sent directly to the office with a detention.

***Grading Policies***

***Late Homework***

Homework turned in after an assignment has been graded will count for 70% of its original point value. Students will be given extra time to complete an assignment in the case of an excused absence. Normally, a student will be given one extra day for each day they were absent. However, for assignments given a week or more in advance, such as spelling or blogging, extra days will probably not be given. If a student does not have an assignment completed on time, they can expect to spend lunch in the homework room until the assignment is completed.

***Grading Percentage Breakdown***

100-98 A+ 91-89 B+ 82-80 C+ 73-71 D+ Below 65 F

97-94 A 88-86 B 79-77 C 70-68 D

93-92 A- 85-83 B- 76-74 C- 67-65 D-

***Keeping Track of Grades***

You may track your grades through the *Skyward* website. A parent will need to contact the office to receive a PIN number that will enable you to access your grades online.

***Websites for Class***

* A class schedule of assignments, as well as information concerning writing assignments, spelling, and journaling can be found on our class website…

[www.epg8thlangarts.weebly.com](http://www.epg8thlangarts.weebly.com)

* Weekly spelling work can be found on…

www.spellingcity.com

* Students may complete their journal assignments on…

www.classpress.com

* The schedule of assignments can also be found on the school website, unit11.org, by clicking on “Parents,” “EPGJH Homework,” and “8th Grade Homework.”