

City Honors School
Differentiated Instruction
Grade 6
2018 – 2019

Teachers: Jennifer Reiss
Mary Serwon
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Phone: (716) 816-4230 (7:45AM – 3:10PM)

1. Course Description

The City Honors Middle School reading program is aligned with the Common Core Standards and International and Middle Years Program. Our sixth grade reading program is a marriage of fine literature, developmental writing, and comprehensive language arts. Reading skills will be integrated across the curriculum in other content areas.

This course is designed to guide students in their search of themselves and a sense of belonging in the world around them, to help students become independent and lifelong learners in a rapidly changing world. Students will be encouraged to develop respect for others and an appreciation of similarities and differences amongst each other. Students will utilize language as a tool for personal growth, social interaction, and for developing relationships within an international community.

Adapted from the *International Baccalaureate Organisation Middle Years Programme Language A Guide*, 2002.

Goals

At the completion of sixth grade students should be able to demonstrate working knowledge in the sixth and seventh grade concepts of reading, writing, listening, and speaking including:

- Literature -
1. Understand literary terms
 2. Read across the genre including international themes, authors, and myths
 3. Identify theme, plot development, characterization, conflict, resolution
 4. Respond to literature in a variety of ways
 5. Evaluate cause/effect, fact/opinion, problem/solution
 6. Interpret and infer – support statements with evidence

2. Major units or topics (tentative).

Topic	Guiding Question	MYP Area of Interaction	Intercultural Awareness and Internationalism
<i>The Breadwinner</i>	Does everybody have the same human rights? What factors contribute to human rights?	Health and Social Education	An Afghan child in a war torn land
Poetry	How is the craft of poetry a means of communication?	Human Ingenuity / Approaches to Learning	Variety of poets and an international selection of poems
<i>The Giver</i>	How much should the government be able to control your individual rights for the benefit of the society?	Environment / Community and Service	Dystopian societies and significant issues such as social justice, indispensability of democratic thought
Oral Traditions (Myths, legends, etc.)	How do myths explain the nature of the world?	Environment / Community and Service	Ancient Greece Ancient Rome India China Ancient Civilizations

3. Additional Resources

- NYS Common Core Learning Modules
- HMH Journeys Reading Series
- Wordly Wise Vocabulary Development

NYS Testing

The NYS Test will take place in April. As of now, the test is set for 4/11/18 – 4/13/18.

4. Assessment Practices and Descriptors

- Summer Reading Test
- Comprehensive Tests (multiple choice, short responses, extended responses)
- Literature Responses
- Writing Assignments (with rubric)
- Signed Monthly Reading Log (District Requirement – 25 novels for the school year)
- Oral Presentations (with rubric)
- Wordly Wise Tests (approximately every other Friday)

Grades will be based on student performance on a variety of assessments, including quizzes, comprehensive tests, writing assignments, literature responses, and group or individual presentations.

GRADES:

A+ 97-100	A 93-96	A- 90-92	B+ 87-89	B 83-86	B- 80-82
C+ 77-79	C 73-76	C- 70-72	D+ 67-69	D 65-66	F 0 - 64

5. Methods of Communication

Teachers can be reached through email, phone, or hand written notes in student planners. Phone calls will not be put through to classrooms during instructional time. The office staff will take a message and we will respond as soon as possible.

Our procedure for additional parent conferences, outside of the scheduled district conferences, will be able to meet as a team on **Thursdays** from **1:00 – 1:30 P.M.** to gain a better understanding of the child in order to meet his/her needs. Email your child’s homeroom teacher to schedule a conference.

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6. Heading Format

Format for Heading:

First and Last Name	HR / ID #
Subject	Date
Assignment Title & Page Number	