



7th Grade Language Arts Student & Parent Information

Necessary items for **SUCCESS EVERY DAY!**

Study Sync Consumable Textbook (provided)
Student I.D. Card
Pencils and glue sticks (a few)
Highlighter
College-ruled notebook paper
Colored pen for correcting
Independent reading novel at all times
Composition book (provided)
3-ring Language Arts binder for materials
Your homework

Gardner Middle School
Mrs. Kelly's Contact Information:
Phone: (951) 699-0080 x3703
Room: 703
Email: ckelly@tvusd.k12.ca.us
Website: <http://gms.tvusd.k12.ca.us>

Gardner Middle School
Mrs. Weir's Contact Information:
Phone: (951) 699-0080 x3701
Room: 701
Email: cweir@tvusd.k12.ca.us
Website: <http://gms.tvusd.k12.ca.us>

Classroom Curriculum:

Our Common Core language arts curriculum focuses on reading, writing, listening/speaking skills, as well as conventions, more commonly known as grammar, spelling, and punctuation. Please refer to the class syllabus for details.

Class work, unfinished class assignments and absences:

Late work will still be accepted within two days of the assigned due date, but it will receive 50%. After two days, work is not accepted. Unfinished class assignments will often need to be finished at home. However, most often students have time to complete class assignments if they are on-task and not talking. Remind your child to use class time wisely. **WHEN ABSENT:** It is the student's responsibility to obtain missed assignments (from their language arts teacher, or a classmate). One day extra is given for each day absent...absent three days, then your missed assignment is due three school days after your return, unless it was a long-term assignment you knew about prior to your absence. **NOTE: BE RESPONSIBLE WHEN ABSENT FROM CLASS AND TURN IN YOUR MISSED WORK...ALWAYS CHECK CLASS WEBSITE FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION.**

Universal Classroom Behavior Expectations:

***Be safe:** Walk at all times. Keep hands and feet to yourself. Keep your belongings out of the aisles. Backpack should be stored under desk.
***Be responsible:** Check your grades at least once a week. Write your homework and due dates in your binder reminder or calendar every, single day. Bring all necessary materials to class (see above).
***Be respectful:** Use common courtesies such as "please" and "thank you." Actively listen when others are speaking. Treat others how you would like to be treated.

Consequences for not following behavior expectations:

1st – 3th offense: Teacher discusses the infraction with student and notifies parents if it persists.
4th offense: Discipline referral and conference with Principal or Assistant Principal. Parent called.
Severe Clause: Sent immediately to the Assistant Principal's office for disciplinary measures.

NO CELL PHONE USE WITHOUT PERMISSION!

Grading Policy:

All assignment and assessment grades total 100% of your student's semester grade. Please remember that Progress Reports are not report cards. They are only a "snapshot" of where your student's grades stand on that particular day at the half-way point in the semester. Categories are below. Weights can be found on Infinite Campus.

- Writing
- Reading
- Vocabulary & Language Conventions
- Listening and Speaking
- Common Interim, Writing, and Final Assessments

Grades:

For grades, please check the Infinite Campus website, which is accessible on the GMS homepage: <http://gms.tvusd.k12.ca.us>. Grades for your student are there for every subject and should be checked by you and your student weekly. ☺

Academic Dishonesty:

A student's work should be a reflection of his own knowledge and is an important tool in helping teachers evaluate and meet individual needs. Academic honesty is expected of all students. Plagiarism or other instances of academic dishonesty will result in the teacher contacting the parent, a written referral, a grade of "F" to the work and a "U" in citizenship. Additional consequences may be assigned after the first offense.

Intervention:

GMS is committed to providing additional support to those students who struggle with a given topic or concept. On Back to School Night, you will receive information about our whole-school intervention plan. Thank you for your support of your child's success!

**Please avoid making end-of-day appointments that require checking your student out early. Early check outs will interfere with your student receiving his or her intervention program.*

ABOUT YOUR 7TH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS TEACHERS

**Mrs. Kelly:**

I am proud to be a Gardner Grizzly, as GMS is a very supportive and rewarding place to be for students, parents, and staff alike! My educational background includes a B.A. in Psychology with an emphasis on Neuropsychology from UC San Diego and a Master's Degree in Instructional Leadership. This year marks my 22nd year of teaching. I have two credentials: cross-cultural multiple-subject, and a single-subject in English. I love teaching with technology and enjoy using our Smart Boards to engage students in dynamic and interactive ways. Married for 31 years to Patrick Kelly, we have one daughter, Brenna, who graduated from Washington State University in 2015—"Go Cougs!" and is now on her second assignment as a TV news reporter in Portland, Oregon. We enjoy the excitement of summer road-trips and cross-country travel—from here to Maine (and everything in between), and the fabulous food culture of Portland, OR. Gardening and reading biographies are also favorite hobbies of mine. I look forward to working with students closely to achieve success in all areas of the Common Core State Standards. Remember to view our classroom website and your Infinite Campus grades portal often! ☺

Mrs. Weir:

Welcome to 7th grade language arts with Mrs. Weir. I am excited to start another year as a Grizzly. I have been teaching for 21 years already since graduating from UCSB and obtaining my teaching credentials from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo; 13 of those years have been with TVUSD. This will be my eighth year at Gardner Middle School in the language arts department. I have taught in many levels of education from 1st grade to 8th. This has given me a great depth of knowledge about where students have started to where they can grow in education. I am a mom of two little girls ages 10 and 7, who keep me busy with their school and dance schedules. We spent a wonderful summer reading, competing in dance competitions, enjoying our new swimming pool. I look forward to a wonderful year with you. Plan to visit our class website as often as possible where you will find important information, due dates, and class handouts.

REMIND App for "Teacher Text" Classroom Updates:

WHAT IS "REMIND" AND WHY IS IT SAFE? Remind is a free, safe, and simple messaging tool that helps teachers share important updates and reminders with students and parents. All personal information is kept private. Teachers will never see your phone number, nor will you be able to see theirs. Please visit my website for the easy link or follow the attached information to sign your phones up for teacher text messages today. ☺ **PLEASE ALWAYS REMEMBER, DETAILS REGARDING ASSIGNMENTS, AND DAILY HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS WILL ALWAYS BE ON YOUR CLASS WEBSITE. REMIND IS ONLY FOR LAST MINUTE REMINDERS, CHANGES, OR UPDATES.** This is an optional messaging tool that merely supplements what is already known to the students by way of classroom announcements and websites.

