**Mrs. Murrell’s 7th grade English Language Arts**

**2023-2024**

Parents,

I am so excited to be your child’s English Language Arts teacher this school year. I am entering my ninth year in education, and my sixth at HMS. I am a Hernando High graduate, and I love pouring into my hometown daily through our students. I received my Bachelor’s degree in Education from Ole Miss, and my Master’s degree in Reading from Arkansas State University. I am also currently in the process of becoming a National Board Certified Teacher.

In this letter you will find information about our class expectations, supplies, daily agenda, and the curriculum we will use this year. If you ever have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at emily.murrell@dcsms.org. I am looking forward to a great year!

**Classroom Expectations**

Students are expected to be

* Prepared
* Productive
* Positive
* Polite

**Supplies**

* Sticky Notes – Regular Size
* Composition Book

**Daily Agenda**

10 minutes Bellwork

10 minutes Independent Writing/Journaling

20 minutes Independent Reading

15 minutes Mini Lesson

30 minutes Active Engagement/Independent Practice

5 minutes Exit Ticket/Clean Up

**Curriculum**

We follow the MSCCRS standards, which you can access at the link below:

<https://districtaccess.mde.k12.ms.us/curriculumandInstruction/MississippiCurriculumFrameworks/ELA/2016-MS-CCRS-ELA.pdf>

**Homework**

I completely understand that you and your child are busy. Students spend all day in a school setting, and they are often drained when they get home. I also understand that they have sports and other extracurricular activities to keep them busy outside of school hours. **For these reasons, I do not assign homework.** With that being said, if your child falls behind on his or her

classwork, they may be asked to finish work at home.

**Classroom Library**

I believe that in order for students to show growth, they should read diverse books that both entertain and challenge them. I have worked very hard to grow my classroom library over the years, and I have around 200 book options in my classroom for your child to choose from. I do my very best to read as many as possible, but with so many options, I cannot possibly read them all before shelving them. If your child reads something that they feel is questionable from my library, I ask that they please just bring it to me so I can address it. I strive to meet one on one with my students each week to discuss their books, so I usually have a pretty good handle on what each child is reading. We will also visit the school library every other week so that your child may check out books from Mrs. Lee as well.

**Social Media**

I use Twitter and Instagram to document what we are doing in class. I would love for you to follow along with what we do- @mrsmurrellhms

If you are not comfortable with me posting your child on my social media, please mark that on the signature sheet so I can avoid doing so.

Sincerely,

Emily Murrell

7th grade ELA

**Signature Page**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_ I have read and reviewed Mrs. Murrell’s teacher letter

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Mrs. Murrell DOES have permission to post my child on her professional Instagram and Twitter

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Mrs. Murrell DOES NOT have permission to post my child on her professional Instagram and Twitter

Parent Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_