

Ms. Rosemarie Ventura
FUNDAMENTALS READ180
Room 204

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students:

WELCOME to this school year! I am looking forward to this year in READ 180. I anticipate a productive and exciting school year. It is my hope that you, as parents and students, share the same feeling. Below is important information to ensure success in class during the year.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The READ180 program is a two-year course which provides reading and literacy instruction that will enable the students to improve their reading, writing, and study skills throughout 7th and 8th grades. The research-based practices of whole group instruction, personalized computer-assisted support using READ180 instructional software, small group instruction, and modeled and independent reading have a proven track record of improving students' literacy skills. Combined with grade-level and instructional-level literature and informational materials, READ180 students are able to transition their skills into improved levels needed for high school.

DAILY REQUIRED MATERIALS

- one notebook (100 leaves)
- 2 erasers; 3 sharpened pencils; 1 yellow highlighter; 1 pink highlighter
- CHARGED IPAD in district-provided case
- IPAD stylus (optional but highly recommended)

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

To maximize success in class, students are expected to

BE PRESENT

- arrive on time to attend R180 class
- adhere to school attendance policy with regard to tardies and truanancies
- stay focused and engaged during classroom instruction

BE PREPARED TO WORK

- come to class with all necessary materials; complete IPAD planner daily
- thoroughly read the assigned fiction/non-fiction books before taking a quiz
- work on all the zones during the 20-25 minute computer rotation
- work on reading packets every day during the independent reading rotation

BE RESPECTFUL

- Maintain language and actions appropriate in the classroom and school context

COURSE LEARNING TARGETS

- A. Recognize and spell words correctly
- B. Read with fluency and accuracy
- C. Read and comprehend grade-level/complex texts independently with confidence and fluency in other content areas such as History, Science, and Mathematics.
- D. Build academic vocabulary

- E. Write Narrative Essays, Argumentative Essays, and Expository Essays
- G. Write prompted essays with correct grammar, mechanics, word usage with focus on audience, purpose, and evidence
- H. Utilize technology for academic purposes and assessments

ASSESSMENTS

Students are assessed in four primary components of READ180:

1. **READ180 Whole and Small Group Instruction**-Students complete skill workshops and computerized assessments (skills tests) at the end of every workshop.
2. **READ180 Instructional Software**- Students are continuously assessed in five areas during their use of READ180 Instructional Software. These areas include comprehension, vocabulary, word/passage fluency, spelling, and context passage.
3. **READ180 Independent Reading**- At the conclusion of each READ180 book, students take a quiz that assesses comprehension of the book. A student can retake a quiz to achieve 80% accuracy of comprehension.
4. **READ180 Writing Assignments**- Students will use the writing process to complete
 - A set of essays (Narrative, Argumentation, Expository)
 - 18 Independent reading packets with passing quizzes(9 packets per semester; each packet worth 100 points)

****Students can re-take course quizzes (except district/state tests) to improve scores/grades. Late homework or written requirement will be given deduction in points.***

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

1. Enter the classroom quietly, sharpen your pencil, go to your assigned seat, and fill out today's plan in your organizer/IPAD.
 2. If you are called from class, gather your materials and leave without disturbing others.
 3. During instruction, listen attentively. Do not interrupt. Time will be given to ask questions.
 4. When someone enters the room, do not talk to the person or make comments about them.
 5. Emergency situations: Follow teacher's directions immediately without asking any questions.
 6. When work is finished early, read a teacher-approved book. Do not disturb others.
- *Reminders:** Raise your hand to speak; Wait for your teacher to dismiss the class; Stay in your seat and complete classwork.

GUEST TEACHER POLICY

Students demonstrating unacceptable behavior while in the care of a substitute will be subjected to all of the following:

Phone call to parent, detention, and citizenship grade lowered two letters.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

All Mar Vista Academy guidelines apply. Parents will be notified of intolerable behavior by phone call or through weekly progress reports. Consequences for misbehavior: detention or campus beautification duties and phone call to parents or parent conference, or AP detention/suspension.

REWARDS

ASB certificates; MVA Way Cards (redeemable for treats or school supplies); positive phone calls home; extra points; annual READ180 award.

GRADING POLICY

Academic grades are divided into four categories:

<p>Standards Practice 10% of your grade</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note-taking • In-class and homework assignments • Quick-writes and Exit Slips
<p>Standards Mastery 30% of your grade</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Common Core Curriculum-based quizzes and tests • District quarterly and semester tests • Rskills tests
<p>Writing 20% of your grade</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rbook writing workshops • Processed writing pieces • Timed-write pieces
<p>READ180 Software 20% of your grade</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Successful completion of all segments (computer work); Final passage recording
<p>Independent Reading 20% of your grade</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily reading packet • Successful completion of book quizzes (80% passing score)

Grades assigned to writing pieces:

GRADE	DESCRIPTOR
4	Exemplary Student work exceeds expectation as outlined in the rubric or task requirements
3	Proficient Student meets expectation as outlined in the rubric or task requirements
2	Emerging Student work is <i>developing</i> into a product that meets expectation, <i>but is missing elements and/or requires some revision</i>
1	Incomplete Student work is in the <i>beginning stages of developing</i> into a product that meets expectation, <i>but is missing key elements and/or requires <u>extensive</u> revision.</i>

***Note About Monitoring Grades:**

READ 180 students get credit for two classes, English and Reading.

To monitor academic progress and completion of work, scores, grade, and behavior, please go to this website: <https://jupitergrades.com> and/or through student IPADS using **JupiterGrades app.**

Periodic emails will be sent home regarding progress.

I strongly encourage parents/guardians to provide a **CURRENT** email address and telephone number.

Teacher Contact Information:

rosemarie.ventura@sweetwaterschools.org

Before or after-school contact number: (619) 628-5100 ext.38204

*Please refer to our school's website <http://mva.sweetwaterschools.org> for specific grade reporting dates and more information about after school academic assistance for students.

Thank you and have an enjoyable and productive schoolyear!

PLEASE RETURN ONLY THIS PAGE and keep the parent/student letter for your records. Thank you.

I have read and understood the information on course requirements, guidelines and procedure, academic requirements, discipline and guest teacher policies, and grading policy for Mrs. Ventura's READ180 class.

READ 180 COMPUTER USE CONTRACT

Computer use is a key component to your journey to improve your reading skills. You need to understand the following rules and guidelines so you can take full advantage of this opportunity. Please read the following guidelines:

1. DO NOT use classroom computers for any purpose other than READ180.
2. Be respectful of all equipment.
3. Immediately report any faulty equipment to the teacher or aide.
4. DO NOT change any settings on the computer.
5. Absolutely no gum, food, or drinks near the computers.
6. NO horseplay near the computers and NO talking while completing software activities.

Please indicate that you have read and that you understand the classroom expectations, grading and discipline policies, and the guidelines for computer use by printing and signing your name below:

x _____
Student name

x _____
Student signature

x _____
Parent/Guardian name

x _____
Parent/Guardian signature

Phone numbers and email address where parent(s)/guardian(s) can be best reached:

Phone numbers: _____

Email: _____