

Ms. Rosemarie Ventura  
READ 180  
Room No. 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**

Fundamentals READ180 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 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades. The research-based practices of whole group instruction, personalized computer-assisted support using R180 instructional software, small group instruction, and modeled independent reading have a proven track record of improving student literacy skills. Combined with grade-level and instructional-level literature and informational materials, R180 students are able to transition their skills into improved levels needed for high school.

### **DAILY REQUIRED MATERIALS**

- CHARGED IPAD in district-provided case
- 2 erasers, 3 sharpened pencils, IPAD stylus, 1 yellow highlighter, 1 pink highlighter

### **STUDENT EXPECTATIONS**

To maximize success in class, students are expected to

#### ***BE PRESENT***

- *Arrive on time in class*
- *Adhere to school attendance policy with regard to tardies and truancies*
- *Stay focused and engaged during classroom instruction*

#### ***BE PREPARED TO WORK***

- *Come to class with necessary materials*
- *Copy daily learning target on the IPAD calendar*
- *Thoroughly read the assigned R180 books before taking a quiz*
- *Work on all the R180 zones during the 20-25 minute computer rotation*
- *Work on reading packets every day during the independent reading rotations*

#### ***BE RESPECTFUL***

- *Show respect towards someone or something important by being careful not to be rude or not to harm him, her, or it*
- *Maintain language and actions appropriate in the classroom and in the school context*

## **COURSE LEARNING TARGETS**

- A. Recognize and spell words correctly
- B. Read with fluency and accuracy
- C. Comprehend literary and informational texts
- D. Read grade-level material independently, with confidence and fluency in all subjects
- E. Build academic vocabulary
- F. Respond to literature creatively and accurately
- G. Write prompted essays with correct grammar, mechanics, word usage and with focus on evidence, audience, smooth transition, and purpose
- H. Utilize technology for academic purposes and assessments

## **CURRICULUM**

- A. Instructional Software (Computer work)
- B. Read 180 Leveled Non-fiction and fiction books for Independent Reading
- C. Nine Workshops for Whole Group Instruction and Small Group Instruction
- D. Assessments: Varied computer reports; teacher-modified/constructed tests/quizzes/rubrics; projects

## **WRITING REQUIREMENTS (for the year)**

1. A set of essays (Narrative, Response to Literature, Summary, Biographical, Descriptive, Persuasive/Argumentative)
2. 18 Independent reading reports with passing quizzes ( 9 book reports per semester)

## **CLASSROOM PROCEDURES**

1. Enter the classroom quietly, sharpen your pencil, go to your assigned seat, and copy DLT on your 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.

## **GUEST TEACHER POLICY**

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

Teacher-student conference, phone call to parent, detention, and citizenship grade lowered two letters.

## **DISCIPLINE POLICY**

All Mar Vista Middle School guidelines apply. Parents will be notified of intolerable behavior by phone call or through weekly progress reports. Consequences for misbehavior may be any of the following: teacher-student conference, detention, campus beautification duties, phone call to parents, parent conference, and AP detention/suspension.

### **REWARDS**

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

### **Reminders:**

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

**\*To monitor your child's completion of work, scores, grade, and behavior, go to this website:**

<https://jupitergrades.com>

You will be notified with your password and instructions.

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

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

\*e-mail: [rosemarie.ventura@sweetwaterschools.org](mailto:rosemarie.ventura@sweetwaterschools.org)

Thank you and have an enjoyable and productive year!

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

**READ180 COMPUTER USE CONTRACT**

Dear student: Computer use is a key component to your journey to improve your reading skills. You need to understand the following rules and guidelines to take full advantage of the READ180 opportunity. Please read the following guidelines:

1. Classroom computers are used for READ180 purposes only.
2. Immediately report any faulty equipment to the aide or teacher.
3. Computer settings may not be changed.
4. No gum, food, drinks near/by the computers.
5. No horseplay near the computers
6. No talking while completing software activities.

Please indicate that you have read and that you understand all the guidelines in READ180 by printing and signing your name below.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's or guardian's signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Please print: parent's/guardian's full name

\_\_\_\_\_  
(house phone number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(work phone number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(cell phone number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(parent e-mail address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Please print: Student's full name

\_\_\_\_\_  
student signature