

**COURSE DESCRIPTION
EIGHTH GRADE
LANGUAGE ARTS**

Philosophy Statement: Language is recognized as a God given gift. Teaching reading, writing, grammar, spelling, and vocabulary empowers students to communicate effectively with others and with God. Students will have the ability and opportunity to express themselves creatively, preparing them for future endeavors.

Objectives: The course of study includes literature, composition, grammar, and vocabulary development. The students will recognize basic literary elements and discuss how they relate to a literary piece, promoting critical thinking skills. Students will master the eight parts of speech and correct usage in grammar and mechanics. Students will continue to practice various forms of prose writing.

Textbooks: Prentice Hall Literature, Grade 8 (Pearson Prentice Hall)
Vocabulary Spelling Poetry II, Grade 8 (A Beka Book)
180 Daily Teaching Lessons, Grade 8 (Wanda C. Phillips)
Sentence Diagramming Exercises: An Introduction to Sentence Diagramming
(Elizabeth O-Brien)
6+1 Traits of Writing (Educational Northwest)

Novels: The Giver (Lois Lowry)
Dacey's Song (Cynthia Voigt)
The Outsiders (S.E. Hinton)

Materials: Student textbooks
English Notebook
BCS Grade 8 Writing Guide

Time Allotments: 1 hr. 45 min. block, 2 days per week; + 50 minute period, 1 day per week

Course Content:	<u>Literature</u>	<u>Grammar</u>	<u>Writing</u>
	Short Stories	Prepositions	Descriptive Essay
	Drama	Verbs	Persuasive Essay
	Nonfiction	Interjections/Conjunctions	Narrative Essay
	Poetry	Nouns	Technical Writing Essay
	Novels	Adjectives	Literary Analysis Essay
		Adverbs	
		Sentences	
		Pronouns	
		Capitalization/Punctuation	

Areas to be Evaluated: Class and Homework Assignments
Writing Assignments
Individual and Group Projects
Quizzes and Tests

Additional Activities: Book Reports, Poetry Writing, Literature Projects