

UPDATED 3/8/20

March 8, 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Your child has expressed an interest in taking Honors English 9 next year. In order that students fully grasp the demands of Honors English, I have included a brief overview of the class curriculum and expectations below. Please carefully look over these requirements with your child to decide if he/she ready to put in the necessary time and effort required for success in this class.

Students in this accelerated class will focus on vocabulary, writing skills, and critical analysis of literature through an in-depth study of various literary genres, along with extended writing and speaking exercises. The class covers works from the standard 9th grade curriculum, including *Lord of the Flies*, *Illustrated Man*, *To Kill a Mockingbird* and Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, and the *Perspectives* textbook, but at a faster pace and greater depth. Additional reading, writing and speaking, commensurate with the nature of this advanced course, will also be required.

Students must also complete a summer project. A page describing this project is included. This project is due **before 3 p.m. on Tuesday, August 17**, which is prior to the start of school. The grade earned on this project, even if it is an "F," will be the grade with which your child will start the semester. **IMPORTANT NOTE: If you plan to deliver in person, the office will not be open until Mon. Aug. 16, and is closed every day for lunch from 12-1 pm.**

Please note: to remain in the honors program, students must maintain an 80% average through the year. Failure to maintain that average **may** result in the student being removed from Honors 9 English and placed in a regular 9th grade English class and **may also** limit the student's future honors options. Please review the course expectations with your child and consider its demands carefully.

If you decide that you don't want to remain in the class after you apply, you need to communicate with Mrs. Harkness, the 9th grade counselor, as soon as possible. Otherwise you may be required to stay in the class until the semester. At that time if you still want to change classes, you may do so.

Parents: if you are comfortable with this class for your child, please print and sign your name and have your child print and sign his/her name below.

*Students: Please type a one- to two-page letter of interest telling a little about yourself, expressing your desire for the class, and sharing the reasons you believe the class would be of benefit. Submit this in the Class of 2025 English Google Classroom (join with the code **oh7xza4**). Please submit your letter and this cover letter (WITH BOTH SIGNATURES BELOW) by **FRIDAY Mar. 26**. Out-of-district students please email me both documents by the deadline. This is a formal paper. Please use your best writing.*

Please feel free to call me at 465-7000 or email me at dori.whitford@mead354.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Dori Whitford

Honors English 9 teacher

Student's Full name

Student's signature

Current School _____

Parent's name

Parent's signature

Email Address _____