LANGUAGE ARTS 9 COURSE OUTLINE

*Mrs. Kasprick, Mr. Meyer & Miss Barr*

*Focus on the journey, not the destination. Joy is found not in finishing an activity but in doing it.* Greg Anderson

### Objectives:

**Communication**

Grade 9 English Language Arts focuses on communication. Human beings communicate in many different ways. To communicate well, people need six important skills: reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, and representing (portraying ideas through visual means).

Students will use these skills to:

1. EXPLORE thoughts, ideas, feelings and experiences
2. COMPREHEND and RESPOND to oral, print and media texts (i.e.: Film)
3. MANAGE ideas and information
4. ENHANCE the CLARITY of communication
5. RESPECT, support, and collaborate with others

### Expectations:

### Habits for Reading

Each student is responsible to read on a regular basis. Half of the learner outcomes in the L.A. curriculum have something to do with reading. It is essential that reading become a habit. Developing skilled readers will not only assist students in Language Arts, but in other subject areas as well. This is also excellent preparation for high school and for Part B of the Grade 9 P.A.T., which is a series of readings and related questions (Reading Comprehension). As was the case with Grade 8 L.A., most Fridays this year will be set aside as a reading day. Whole group reading will be done. Your participation is expected.

## \*Book Report

There may be a book report assignment or assignments during the year. Notification as to when the assignment could be given will be communicated to you. As well, formatting and expectations will be clearly explained. Please be prepared for the assignment or assignments by reading a novel or novels of your choice throughout the year. The book report does not necessarily have to be on a book you are reading at the time of the assignment. It could be from a book you have read at some point in the year. Note: Tutorial time is a perfect time to be reading, especially if you have no homework or are “bored”.

**Course Content:** Formative and Summative Assessments (your grade) may be based on concepts from these categories and units:

* Introduction to ourselves and the course
* Formal Writing
* Short Story Writing
* Essay Writing
* Novel Study
* Crossroads text
* Reading Comprehension Activities
* Visual Literacy

### Assessment

### Final Report Card Evaluation will be based on the following categories:

***Assignments*** (Formative and Summative Assignments including Novel Study work) = 90%

***Final Exam*** (P.A.T. – Writing Part A - 5%) – (P.A.T. Reading Part B – 5%) in May and June = 10%.

*Note:* Formative Assessment, such as informal/practice assignments, discussions and reading done at home will not be included as part of the report card mark. However, formative assessment is practice work helping to create the best possible final product for a summative evaluation. Your full participation in formative type assignments and activities is expected.

**P.A.T. Notes:**

Achievement Test Part A- Writing (Short Story/Essay and Business Letter): May, 2018

Achievement Test Part B- Reading (55 Multiple Choice Questions): June, 2018

In order to equip students with the skills and attitudes that they will need to be successful in school and at future jobs, assignment completion deadlines are set for each quarter. Students need to ensure that their assignments are up to date by the end of each quarter.

* Q1 – November 8
* Q2 – January 18
* Q3 – March 29
* Q4 – June 22