

Mrs. Kuczora

7th Grade Literacy

ALL ABOUT ME:

Welcome to 7th grade literacy! I am thrilled to be teaching at Hadley Jr. High. It's going to be a great year!

I was raised in Woodstock, IL where I graduated from high school. Upon graduation, I attended the University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign for my undergraduate degree. I graduated with my bachelor's degree in Elementary Education with a concentration in language arts and middle school certification. I have additionally earned my master's degree from Concordia University in Educational Leadership and Administration. I am a true believer in lifelong learning, so I anticipate that I will journey into more post-graduate courses in the very near future.

Professionally, I am entering my 9th year in the field of education. I had the privilege of teaching 6th, 7th, and 8th grade literacy for my first 6 years in education. After completing my master's degree, I ventured into administration, which is when I landed in District 41. I was the assistant principal at Forest Glen for two years. It was an invaluable experience filled with learning, connecting, and truly growing as a professional. It was after two years of administration that I decided it was time to go "home" to the classroom. While I loved the leadership opportunities administration had to offer, I truly missed being in the classroom and especially missed teaching literacy to middle school students. This professional realization is how I came full circle and ended up back "home" fostering a love for literacy within our students.

Personally, I married my husband in 2010, which was 5 years after we met at the U of I. Kurt and I welcomed Connor, our first son, this past July. It was truly the best day of our lives. We look forward to the many adventures parenthood has to offer! To make our family complete, we have our pug, Fred, who we also consider our "baby."

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS:

- 1- Be Responsible
- 2- Be Respectful
- 3- Be Accountable

DAILY-REQUIRED MATERIALS:

- * Independent Novel
- * Language Arts binder/folder
- * Pen and pencil
- * Highlighters-4 colors
- * Agenda book

HOMEWORK:

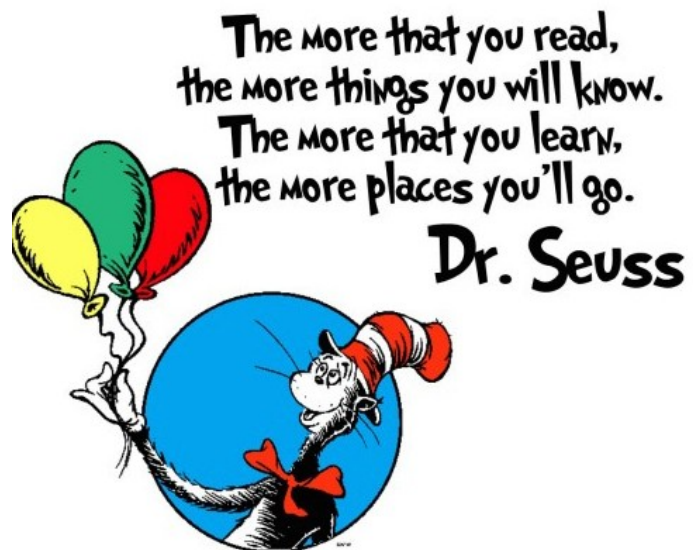
Almost every night students are expected to read for at least 20 minutes in addition to any other assigned homework. Reading will be tracked with a skill-aligned bookmark every two weeks. Homework will be posted on the classroom website and written in each student's agenda notebook.

WRITING OPTION:

All typed writing assigned and graded is considered a work in progress. You may at anytime during the quarter review the rubric and/or conference with the teacher, make changes to your paper, and resubmit it for an improved grade.

PLEASE NOTE: The resubmitted paper **must** be stapled to the originally graded paper or it will not be accepted for review.

ABSENCES AND MAKE-UP WORK:



Upon returning from an absence you are expected to complete an absence slip and place it in the absence box. I will then gather all necessary make up assignments and have them ready the following day. Please ask your group's absentee secretary for further assistance and explanation regarding these missing assignments. In addition, I am available after class if you have any questions or need more clarification regarding missed work.

COMMUNICATION:

Communication is key to best supporting each student. Please contact me with any concerns, celebrations, or general inquiries. Email is the quickest way to get in touch; however, I will return phone calls within 24 hours and am happy to schedule any face-to-face conferences. Additionally, I will be sending home regular curricular and classroom updates periodically each month via e-mail and website updates. The classroom website will have daily homework, PDF attachments, and and curricular resources-be sure to check it out and utilize it! I look forward to teaming with you to foster your child's academic and social/emotional growth this year!

QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS??? *Feel free to contact me anytime at mkuczora@d41.org*