

September 2026

Dear Parent or Guardian,

My name is Lauren Godbolt and I am fortunate enough to be your child's English teacher during the 2026-2027 school year! This year will be an exciting time for us all as we tackle literature, writing, and essential English Language Arts skills.

On the reverse side of this letter, you will find a copy of the class contract -- outlining the general rules and expectations of our class. You may also take a look at the breakdown of quarterly grades. After reviewing this contract, please sign on the lines provided below. You and your child must sign this contract. **This signed contract will serve as your child's first homework grade.**

One of my main goals is to establish a partnership with all parents/guardians in order to create a successful learning experience for students. I eagerly welcome any questions or concerns you may have about the various aspects of this class. I encourage guardians *and* students to keep in touch with me through Parent/Student Square.

Please do not hesitate to email me at LGodbolt@shufsd.org. I look forward to working together to help your child succeed!

Best wishes,
Ms. Lauren Godbolt

Tentative Curriculum

Speak by Laurie Halse Anderson
Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury
Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare
The Old Man and the Sea by Ernest Hemingway
The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd

Poetry
Text-based Analysis
Argumentative Writing
Short Stories
Literature-based Vocabulary

Class Expectations

- **Be Respectful.** In order to ensure a positive learning environment, you must show respect for yourself, your classmates, and your teachers.
 - Disrespect or discrimination in regards to one's race, gender, sexuality, religion, etc. will NOT be tolerated. Don't be a bully!
 - L I S T E N. I will never speak over you, so please show us the same respect.
 - Use appropriate language.
- **Take Responsibility.** Things happen!
 - Own up to any mistakes you may make. You will be surprised by how understanding I can be! :-)
 - If you are absent, work is **always** posted on Google Classroom. Don't use an absence as an excuse to fall behind. Excused or not, you are responsible for turning in scheduled assignments and completing exams upon your return to class.
- **Participate Constructively.** A *little* effort goes a **long** way.
 - There is no such thing as a stupid question, so ask away!
 - Unless otherwise instructed, raise your hand if you would like to contribute to the class discussion.
 - Before speaking, ask yourself: *"Will this statement positively further the discussion, hinder the conversation, or distract my classmates from the task at hand?"*

Class Rules

- Cell phones, airpods/headphones, smartwatches and other electronic devices must be stored in your locker. If I see a device, I have to confiscate it and alert an Administrator.
- Do not cheat, plagiarize, or copy others' work. You will receive a zero.
 - *Plagiarism: copying work from another source without giving proper credit.* We will go over the proper ways to cite information in order to avoid plagiarism.
 - The use of AI is considered cheating and is not permitted.
- Assignments that are not submitted on time will lose 5-10 points for every day they are late.
- Every third lateness to class counts as a cut and will result in detention.
- To limit the amount of missed class time and to avoid overcrowding the bathrooms and hallways, each student is allowed ONE bathroom pass per week. Of course emergencies do not count, but "emergencies" should not occur multiple times per week. Try to make adjustments.
- **According to the Student Handbook, an unexcused absence – or cut – on an exam day will result in a ZERO on that exam. This ZERO cannot be made-up.**

Grading Breakdown

Tests/Quizzes 35%

Writing 35%

Homework/Classwork 15%

Participation 15%

Acknowledgement of Class Contract

Student Name

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature