



ELA Pathways HANDBOOK

2020-2021 School Year

Contact Information

You may reach all teachers via the office at **(502) 485-8346**.

Delphine Jordan
Reading&Writing

Email: delphine.jordan@jefferson.kyschools.us

Melissa Lintner
Reading&Writing

Email: melissa.lintner2@jefferson.kyschools.us

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Vision and Mission	3
Welcome Letter	4
Infinite Campus	5
School CNXT	5
Language Arts Syllabus.....	6-8

Vision Statement

The Reading and Writing Pathway will prepare all students to effectively communicate ideas, thoughts, and experiences in a clean, clear, and concise manner using reading and writing skills suited for their particular audience and purpose.

Mission Statement

The Reading/Writing pathway will enhance and continue to develop students' verbal and written communication skills enabling them to experience the focused growth needed to insure future learning success and a lifelong love of learning.

August 25, 2020

Dear Westport Guardians,

Welcome to the Reading & Writing Pathway at the Westport Middle School. Thanks for choosing this new and exciting opportunity, the Middle School Reading & Writing Pathways. This is an initiative being promoted by our district that prepares students to be critical readers and writers. We are honored to be a part of this trail blazing effort. This opportunity leads students strategically along their area of choice and special interest to making a difference by recognizing that a chosen pathway can lead your student towards being a proficient reader and writer and a rewarding career.

We have an exciting 2020-2021 school year planned! Every teacher is committed to creating an enriching and engaging classroom in person as well as virtually. We will make it a priority to consistently communicate expectations and procedures to our students and families. In the pages that follow, you will find information that we hope will make your child's transition easier this year.

Parents and students are encouraged to log in to Parent Portal early and often throughout the school year. Parental involvement with your child and working with us can make all the difference in giving your child the opportunity he or she needs to succeed! Not only do we hope that you use Parent Portal, but we hope to keep you involved through the use of various forms of communication identified in this booklet.

We will communicate with parents/guardians throughout the year. Be on the lookout for newsletters/emails. Please make sure to provide up-to-date contact information for yourself and any additional authorized family members (email, cell phone, and work phone). We look forward to a great 2020-2021 school year!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Delphine Jordan - Reading & Writing

Mrs. Melissa Lintner - Reading & Writing

Infinite Campus (Parent Portal)



One of the major keys to student success is parent involvement. You can sign up and log in to check grades and assignments at any time using Parent Portal. Parent Portal can be accessed from the JCPS website or by following this link- <http://www.jcpsky.net/Parent/ParentPortal/index.html>

- **Specific instructions for how to get a Parent Portal login is provided in the packet of school forms.**
- **You can also access Parent Portal from your phone once you've setup an account. Check out the website for more information.**



Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS) will offer an additional communication tool this year for families to stay connected to their child's school and teachers. The new app, School CNXT, provides for two-way communication and allows families to engage directly with school staff. The app also helps remove language barriers by translating messages into multiple languages.

With the app, schools will be able to reach registered families or any subset of families with pertinent news and events that are translated in the languages and formats parents and guardians prefer. In addition, families with multiple children at multiple schools will have communication streamlined within a single app.

Reading & Writing syllabus

Delphine Jordan And Melissa Lintner
6th./7th./8th./ Grade Reading & Writing - RA Pathways
Westport Middle School

8100 Westport Road
Louisville, KY 40222
Phone: (502) 485-8346

Mrs. Jordan & Mrs. Lintner
Rooms: 220 & 217

Class website: Google Classroom

Please check Parent Portal and our website for important information and assignments.

Welcome Westport Warhawks!

In this class you can expect to work hard at improving your reading and writing along with your speaking, and listening skills while utilizing critical thinking. Your success will depend on how much effort you put into this class. Don't be afraid to ask questions and challenge yourself!

In 6th Grade, 7th. Grade, 8th. English Language Arts (Reading & Writing) we will focus on the Kentucky State Common Core Standards. We will work on mastering the two main areas of reading and writing through the use of **Narrative, Informational and Argumentative resources**. These three areas have been touched on in previous grades, but will be explored in more depth this year. We will start with narrative texts, then informational, and finally end the year with Argument. This year, you will start online where we will build community. You will also participate in a workshop style classroom that depends on participation in order to succeed! We will complete projects based on racial equity for publishing as well as backpack items.

Standards

Students will learn each of the standards by name and work toward mastering each one.

- Reading and Writing Informational Texts
- Reading and Writing Narrative Texts
- Reading and Writing Argumentative Texts
- Language Usage and Vocabulary

Independent Reading

Independent reading is crucial in order to become a more critical reader. Each class period, students will participate in Sustained Silent Reading (SSR) time. While reading, students will use reading strategies we've learned in class as well as answer critical thinking questions that pertain to their book. Books will be rented from the school library once each month as well as be provided in the classroom library. However, students are encouraged to bring books from home that interest them!

Guidelines for Success in Rooms 220 & 217

1. Students must be willing to try new things, to ask questions, and to sometimes fail. All of these are critical for learning and are expected and accepted in the classroom.
2. Students must have a positive attitude and be willing to participate in class. Participation is a major component of a student's grade.
3. Students will follow all class rules. In order for students to learn, the classroom must be a place of respect and order. Following the class rules is essential for success. At Westport SOAR expectations will be the standard.
4. Students will listen the first time a direction is given. The less time spent repeating directions, the more time the class can spend learning.
5. We are all in this together! We need our students, parents, and teachers all on the same page working towards the common goal of success and mastery for EVERY LEARNER.

What Students Need in Class Everyday

1. Folder and Writer's Notebook
2. Pencil or Writing Utensil
3. Folder (to take work home)
4. Independent Reading Book

Classroom Rules and Expectations

1. We will show respect for ourselves and others at all times.
2. We will show respect for the work that we do as individuals and as a group.
3. We will show respect for our classroom and its materials. It is our space to learn and we will take care of it accordingly!

Grading Scale

Cumulative Grades (District Grading Scale):

- A: 90 – 100%
B: 80 - 89%
C: 70 – 79%
D: 60 – 69%
U: Below 60%

For Mastery-Based Grades (homework, daily work, Common Formative Assessments (CFAs), tests, and/or projects):

- Distinguished (4)..... 100%
Proficient (3).....85%
Apprentice (2).....75%
Novice (1).....65%
U (0).....55%

Gradebook Set-Up:

Student Engagement 20%: Includes weekly homework, warm-ups, and participation

Student Progress 30%: Includes weekly in-class assignments, group work, and notes

Student Mastery 50%: Includes mastery tests, district proficiencies, projects

** Students will have opportunities to retake mastery tests. The grade will then be replaced in the grade book*

Make-up Work

Attendance is vital to a student's success. Students are expected to make up any missed assignments, including notes. Students need to visit the "What you missed" section of the classroom and gather the assignments. This is the student's responsibility and should be requested by the student. Please note that if a student is in class and chooses to not complete an assignment, make-up work will be required.

6th Grade Pathways- Reading & Writing

- Building Community
- Independent reading
- Read sample narratives
- Novel review
- Racial Equity Project(research)
- Write narratives
- Make Presentations
- Publish/backpack

7th Grade Pathways- Reading & Writing

- Building Community
- Independent Reading (a novel)
- Critical analysis of stories
- Racial equity project
- Use the writing process
- Write a short story

8th Grade Pathways- Reading & Writing

- Building Community
- Read a novel of choice
- Critical analysis of sample articles
- Project on Racial Equity
- Using the writing process
- Critical analysis of a novel read