

# Literacy Connections

## Literacy Connections...What is it?

Literacy Connections is a reading class for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders who need assistance with reading. This class is offered as a Related Arts class to those students who have an IEP.

### Students will work on the following skills:

- **Fluency:** The rate at which text is read aloud
- **Sight Word Recognition:** The 1200 most frequently used words in text will be practiced and learned.
- **Syllabification or Word Chunking:** Prefixes, suffixes, and base words are used to assist readers in sounding out multi-syllable words.
- **Comprehension:** Strategies to understand the text will be used.
- **Spelling:** Common spelling trends will be applied to list words.

### ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT!

It is very important that you try as hard as you can to be in class every day! Because the work we do often cannot be "made up" at home, you may be asked to work with the teacher at lunch or after school to get the extra practice that you missed in class. Also, if you need any extra help, you can arrange a time to meet with the teacher during lunch or after school.

### Tardies

It is absolutely necessary to be on time to class. Most days you will be working with a partner, so when you are tardy your partner loses time as well. Being on time means that you have everything you need for class and are in your assigned seat when class starts. If you are tardy to class three times you will receive a lunch detention the next day. For a fourth tardy, you will be assigned an after-school detention. If you continue to be tardy, you will be referred to the Office.

**Be respectful to everyone in class—be on time!**



Mrs. Brandow-  
Room 118

(231) 865-3128, ext. 3038  
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### A Little About Myself...

I am in my 24th year of teaching. I taught for three years at Mason County Central Middle School in the special education categorical room with 5th-8th graders. I then moved to Fruitport Middle School where I taught 8th grade special education for 9 years. I most recently taught 5th grade at Shettler Elementary. I am excited to be back at FMS.

My husband teaches at Muskegon High school and we have two children in college. My daughter is a junior at Central Michigan University and my son is a freshman at Muskegon Community College. We enjoy watching him play soccer there.  
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### Classroom Rules

1. Have a positive attitude
2. Get along with others
3. Come to class prepared with your supplies
4. Be on time
5. Treat the people, classroom, and things with respect
6. Respect everyone's personal space and work time
7. Bring only water beverages to class

### The FMS 5 Standards of Behavior:

1. Stay in assigned seat unless you have permission to move.
2. Raise your hand for permission to speak unless an activity calls for multiple speakers.
3. Keep all body parts and possessions to yourself
4. Keep your head up and eyes open at all times
5. Follow adult instructions



### Homework and Projects:

Students will be required to participate in daily assignments that will be done in class. They will also be asked to **participate** in reading checks which will take some additional **practice** and **preparation** on their own. Finally, students will be assigned a “**Book Club**” project each marking period in which they will be expected to choose, read, and talk about a book at their lexile level.

### Our Classroom Library...

Over all of my years of teaching Language Arts, I have collected and purchased many books for students to use. Students are able to check books out at any time. There is no due date or late fee. I do ask, however, that the book is returned when you are finished in the same condition. If the book is lost or ruined, please replace it or pay for it so I can make it available to other students. Thank You!



### Earning Grades:

Students, please remember that you **EARN** grades! They are NOT “given” to you!! The effort you put into the class is shown by the grade that is printed on your report card. To earn a good grade...



- Be prepared each day
- Participate in class
- Practice your skills
- Complete daily assignments



**Keys to Success:**  
Prepare, Participate,  
& Practice!



### Recommended Materials:

- Sharpened Pencils
- Loose Notebook Paper  
or Spiral Notebook
- 2-Pocket Folder (I will supply the first one)
- Colored Pencils/Markers
- Ink Pens—Black or Blue Ink Only
- Large Eraser and/or  
Pencil Cap Erasers
- Pencil Bag
- Organizer

**DONATIONS WELCOME!**

- ◆ **BOOKS FOR KIDS—  
FICTION AND NONFICTION**
- ◆ **KLEENEX—  
WE GO THROUGH A LOT!**
- ◆ **HAND SANITIZER**

### Grading Scale

- A 95-100%
- A- 90-94%
- B+ 87-89%
- B 83-86%
- B- 80-82%
- C+ 77-79%
- C 73-76%
- C- 70-72%
- D+ 67-69%
- D 63-66%
- D- 60-62%
- F 0-59%



### School Information

2015-2016  
(231) 865-3128

Principal:  
Mrs. Wendy Somers

Assistant Principal:  
Mr. Derek Dillon

Counselor:  
Mrs. Julie Kolbe

Office Secretaries:  
Ms. Jennifer Miller  
Ms. Suzanne Thompson

Impact Leader:  
Mr. Jeff Schurman

School Hours:  
7:35 a.m. - 2:37 p.m.

Delayed Start Wednesdays:  
9:05 a.m.- 2:37 p.m.