**ELA 8th Grade**

**Updated Writing Plan 2013-2014**

**September 23-27, 2013**

1. Teachers pass back essays, discuss scoring method.
2. Students read aloud their essays to shoulder partners, checking for sentence fluency.
3. Students use Writing Reflective Worksheet to closely examine their essays.
4. Students decide on new goals for their re-writes, put the scores on the essays, then put them in writing folders.

**September 30- October 4, 2013**

1. Students will use Writing Prompt Stations as a way of brainstorming, planning and organizing ideas (15 minute intervals).
2. Pre-Assessment on Conclusions/Inferences
3. “Nothing Gold Can Stay”& “Taught Me Purple,” (Conclusions, Inferences/Voice)

**October 7-11, 2013**

1. Post- Assessments on Conclusions/Inferences
2. Students will complete a reverse outline on an anchor essay (level 5)
3. Students will complete a reverse outline on their expository essays.
4. End of Quarter

**October 14-21, 2013**

1. Mini lessons on the Introductory paragraph that include: hook, thesis sentence, and general information.
2. Students will re-write their introductions.

**October 22-25, 2013**

1. Mini lessons on Bare vs. Elaboration.
2. Students will re-write their body paragraphs.

**October 28-31, 2013**

1. Mini lesson of conclusions using 360 degree approach.
2. Students will re-write their conclusions, and finish their rewrites.
3. Students will complete a Timed PMA on a second expository essay (Halloween/holiday theme). Students will keep in mind what their goals are for this writing assignment.

**November 1-20, 2013**

1. Pre-Assessment on Characterization/ Context Clues.
2. Discovery Education
3. “The Drummer Boy of Shiloh” (word choice/ideas).
4. Post-Assessment on Characterization/Context Clues
5. Pre-Assessment on Plot
6. “Thank you M’am, use close reading lesson, (word choice/ideas)
7. Post –Assessment on Plot

**November 21-26, 2013**

1. Students will use Writing Reflective Worksheet for their second expository essays, and discuss how they met their writing goals.
2. Introduction to Persuasive Writing.
3. Thanksgiving Vacation.

**December 2-5, 2013**

1. Vocabulary/Word games.
2. Second Round of PMA (persuasive).

**December 6-13, 2013**

1. Pre-Assessment on Compare/Contrast
2. “Watching Baseball, Playing Softball” (organization)
3. Post-Assessment on Compare/Contrast

**December 16-19, 2013 (early dismissal)**

1. Engineering Projects
2. End of Quarter Exams
3. Students will read aloud their persuasive essays to shoulder partners.
4. Students will use Writing Reflective Worksheet closely examine their persuasive essays.

**Notes:**

In addition, teachers will be using the Writing Centers for supplemental teaching (during 8thperiods). Topics include:

* Writing Complex Sentences
* Sentences with Interesting Phrases
* Writing Thousands of Proverbial Compound Sentences
* Pondering the Prompts
* Support- Bare vs. Elaboration
* Vivid Verbs
* Enrichment Vocabulary and Mimicry Writing

Also, it should be mentioned that the 8th grade ELA chose to include the Assessed Reading Standard pieces of literature that are considered “Power Assessments” to be taught during the second quarter. We postponed using four pieces from our 2013-2014 SBLAP-8 that will be readdressed in February.

The month of February has been set aside in the district for focused writing instruction for preparation for FCAT Writing. This is the time that we decided to incorporate a variety of activities/lessons/remediation by moving students to experience lessons from all the ELA 8th grade teachers. Therefore, by creating a variety of writing circles on campus. Select dividends from Lyman will be helping us.

8th Grade ELA teachers will be tracking their students’ progress by using Milwee Writes Charts. Classes that have made the most progress will be rewarded with pizza parties. Assessed writing will include: 2 expository essays, 1 re-write, and 1 persuasive essay.