

These quotes from Alice Ozma’s memoir reflect our philosophy of reading and the importance of reading at home…

*In 1985, the Commission on Reading…declared, “The single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children.” Both reading in school and at home were encouraged.*

*The greatest gift you can bestow upon your children is your time and undivided attention. If a child sees something in a parent that that child aspires to, he or she will copy that parent and be content.*

--foreword by Jim Brozina (Alice’s dad) from The Reading Promise by Alice Ozma

**SUMMER READING.** All students entering sixth grade were expected to read at least 2 books over the summer. We will be using one of these books in class the first two weeks of school. Please ask or check the website for our suggested summer reading list.

**INDEPENDENT READING.** Students must read 100 minutes outside of our Language Arts class each week. Often, there will be a required written response based on what we have been learning in class. Typically, students will be asked to read at least one book per month. Near the beginning of each month, students will either choose or be assigned a book to read. Students will be expected to bring this book home each night and have it in school every day. Once a student completes a book….start another!!! Students should ALWAYS have a book that s/he is reading.

For the month of September, students may choose a book of any fictional genre. Books can come from your personal collections at home, the public or Middle School library, and there are hundreds of books in my personal classroom library that students are welcome to borrow.

**WRITING.** Students will keep a journal for informal writing which includes responses to reading and in-class writing assignments. We will also publish a persuasive book review, a personal narrative, and an informational writing piece.

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**CURRICULUM.** Mayfield City Schools have transitioned to the State Board of Education-adopted Common Core Standards in English Language Arts. In general, the Language Arts standards that we will cover include Reading/Fiction, Reading/Informational, Writing, Speaking & Listening, and Language. For a full explanation of the standards, go to the mayfieldschools.org website and click on *district*, then *curriculum*.

**HOMEWORK AND GRADES**. The Mayfield Middle School policies on grades, redo/retake, and homework policies can also be found on our website (mayfieldschools.org). Click on *district*, then *curriculum*, then *forms*.

**COMMUNICATION.** Students should record homework assignments in their agendas each day. For specifics on homework and important announcements related to our class, the following can also be utilized: the **Remind** app, Mrs. Hannan’s **website**, and **Google** classroom. The most efficient way for parents to contact us regarding individual questions or concerns is via email.

**MATERIALS.** The following items from the 6th grade Supply List are for our Language Arts class. The designated color for Language Arts is YELLOW:

* **1 Binder:** our binder with 5 divider tabs serves as a ‘textbook’ that we will add to all year
* **1 Spiral Notebook**: a one-subject spiral to be used as a writing journal (can stay in binder if there’s room)
* **2 Yellow Folders:** these are writing and vocabulary folders that will stay in the classroom
* Any color for a **Homework Folder**: this folder should come home each night with homework that needs to be completed for all classes; it should return to school each day with the completed homework and brought to EVERY class.

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**DREAM Team Language Arts**

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