

# Mount Vernon High School Home of the Majors

*"Majors achieve and thrive together with purpose and pride."*



#ProudMajors

Welcome to BTSN from your MVHS Administrative Team!



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<b>P.R.I.D.E.</b>	<b>IB Learner Profile</b>	<b>WITHIN OUR SCHOOL</b>
<b>Preparation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Communicators</li> <li>● Inquirers</li> <li>● Knowledgeable</li> <li>● Reflective</li> <li>● Thinkers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Majors walk with a purpose and; with the goal of arriving to class on-time.</li> <li>● Majors aim to</li> <li>● Majors are available to engage in all aspects of the learning process.</li> <li>● Majors advocate appropriately when they need assistance (academic, behavior, social/emotional).</li> <li>● Majors communicate with teachers and plan in advance for when they are not in class and to follow up on lessons missed.</li> </ul>
<b>Respect</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Balanced</li> <li>● Caring</li> <li>● Communicators</li> <li>● Principled</li> <li>● Reflective</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Majors use appropriate tone of voice, word choice/language and body language.</li> <li>● Majors are mindful of their environments and conversations.</li> <li>● Majors respect the boundaries and personal space of others.</li> <li>● Majors greet each other and return greetings to others.</li> <li>● Majors follow the expectations set forth by teachers in their classrooms &amp; the SR&amp;R.</li> </ul>
<b>Integrity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Balanced</li> <li>● Communicators</li> <li>● Open mindedness</li> <li>● Principled</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Majors are truthful and courageous enough to communicate with staff/peers.</li> <li>● Majors are responsible and accountable for their actions and success.</li> <li>● Majors are mindful of others and respect diverse perspectives.</li> <li>● Majors are aware of their behaviors and how their behaviors can impact others.</li> </ul>
<b>Determination</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Communicators</li> <li>● Inquirers</li> <li>● Knowledgeable</li> <li>● Risk-Takers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Majors are committed and present in the moment.</li> <li>● Majors follow through with assigned tasks.</li> <li>● Majors complete tasks to the best of their abilities.</li> <li>● Majors persevere through difficult situations, tasks, conflicts and roadblocks and promptly communicate with teachers/staff for assistance.</li> </ul>
<b>Excellence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Balanced</li> <li>● Inquirers</li> <li>● Communicators</li> <li>● Knowledgeable</li> <li>● Reflective</li> <li>● Risk-Takers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Majors show maximum effort in all that they do.</li> <li>● Majors strive to create balance between school and home and minimize distractions.</li> <li>● Majors self-reflect as they grow and develop into life-long learners.</li> <li>● Majors are able to self-regulate their actions in order to accomplish goals.</li> <li>● Majors are team players and are always willing to lend a hand.</li> </ul>



**Hello, I'm Ms. Neville!**

**I am a proud graduate of THE Virginia State University, and hold a BA in English with a minor in Mass Communications; and a MAEd in Education: Curriculum & Instruction! Outside of teaching, I enjoy the following:**

- **Reading**
- **Writing**
- **Nature walks**
- **Travel**



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## Curriculum Overview

The English 9 course is designed to improve student understanding and skill-level in grammar, vocabulary, listening, writing, media literacy, speaking, researching, and reading. You will engage in an intensive examination of the Virginia Grade 9 Standards of Learning around the following questions:

1. What can literature teach us about human nature?
2. How can we promote global-mindedness through the study of literature?
3. How can we gain an appreciation of literature through study of the writer's craft?
4. How is what we learn applicable in our own lives

*The curriculum consists of six units:*

- 1) **Perspectives- (Elements of NonFiction)**
- 2) **Crediting Sources to Avoid plagiarism - (Research Skills)**
- 3) **The Art of Persuasion -(Persuasive/Argument Writing)**
- 4) **Why Stories matter? - (Literary Analysis: Short Story Elements)**
- 5) **Poetic Voices- (Poetry Analysis: Tone and mood)**
- 6) **Courageous Choices- (Literary Analysis: Conflict development and Characterization)**

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## Recommended Supplies for Class

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**In addition to bringing your laptops to class, daily, you will need the following supplies:**

- **Notebook/Composition book**
- **Pens**
- **Pencils**



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## Procedures and Routines for the Classroom

*Our school-wide expectations that we follow are represented in our PRIDE (Preparation, Respect, Integrity, Determination, and Excellence) grid. All teachers and students will engage in the MVHS Squad (Positive Behavior) System in which students receive points for positive behaviors aligned with our PRIDE grid. In addition, Social and Emotional Learning will be embedded in the curriculum, with an emphasis on the following five core values: Self-Awareness, Self-Management, Social Awareness, Relationship Skills, & Responsible Decision Making.*

Additionally, below are my expectations for this class. **AT ALL TIMES** students are expected to:

- **RESPECT yourself** - advocate for yourself when you need help or support, always do your absolute best, behave in a way that contributes positively to our class community
- **RESPECT others** - speak with kindness and consideration, support the diversity of our class, do not behave in a way that impedes another's learning
- **RESPECT our environment** - use classroom and school materials with care, do not touch other people's belongings, leave our learning space as clean or cleaner than when you entered
- **RESPECT our mission** - attend each class with an open mind and a willing attitude, aim to perform your best on all assignments and assessments, behave in a way that does not impede the learning or safety of those around you.

### Disciplinary Actions

If expectations are disregarded, disciplinary actions will be taken. They are as follows\*:

1. Teacher Warning
2. Teacher Detention\*\*
3. First detention: 30 minutes after school\*\*
4. Second detention: 60 minutes after school\*\*
5. Administrative Referral
  - a. Given for insubordination, plagiarism, cheating, stealing, defamation of school, teacher, or student property, or other rules which violate the school code of conduct.
  - b. Given as a secondary measure if detentions or warnings have not affected appropriate conduct

\*Steps may be skipped if the gravity of the situation warrants such action.

\*\*Parents are responsible for arranging after school transportation

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# Grading and Assessments

## Grade Weighting

Student grades will be calculated within the following categories:

50%: **Summative Assessments** (Mid term exams, Portfolio, Persuasive essay, oral presentations, final project)

30%: **Formative Assessments** (Class discussions, weekly quizzes and reading comprehension checks, benchmarks)

20 %: **Classwork/Homework** (daily warmups/practice exercises, group work, quick checks, quick writes)

*\* If a student turns in an assignment and earns an F (63% or lower), the grade will be recorded in SiS as an F and will equal 0.7. If a student does not turn in an assignment, it will be coded as NTI (Not Turned In) in SiS and will equal 0. Work marked as NTI can be submitted until the end of the unit.*

## Final Exam

**\*\* All courses will give a final exam or, preferably, a culminating activity, which may count as a maximum of 10% of the final grade. Senior final exams will be given on scheduled senior exam days; likewise, underclassmen final exams will be administered on underclassmen exam days at the end of the year.**

## Grading Work

Assignments will be graded and grades will be posted within 7 school days after the due date with the understanding that major projects/papers may require additional time to ensure quality feedback.

*Grades will be determined by a student's proficiency level on common standards-based assessments,*

*benchmarking, and rubrics based on the type of learning each essential standard requires to support student engagement.*

*The grade earned at the end of the school year will indicate the level of achievement in accordance with the POS or other designated curriculum.*

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## **Attendance**

**In the event you miss class, updates will be posted in our Schoology page. If you have a planned absence, please let me know.**

**Thank you!**

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