

# *Norwood Public Schools*

## **Grade 7 English Curriculum Overview**

### **Description (including primary objectives and outcomes)**

The 7<sup>th</sup> grade ELA team seeks to provide a balanced approach to the curriculum through five literary units. Each literary unit includes but is not limited to instruction on the following: multi-cultural selections by diverse authors; differentiated instruction and assessment; reading comprehension skills and strategies; higher-order-thinking questions and activities; real-world connections; incorporation of formal and informal writing; grammar review, instruction, and application of all skills; and standardized test preparation.

### **Learning Experiences:**

The 7<sup>th</sup> grade ELA team strives to provide a multitude of learning experiences in a safe environment conducive to academic growth. Along with traditional lectures, students will learn through partner and group work, projects, computer laboratory time, library time, as well as field trips. The teachers utilize multimedia technology to foster student learning through the Lady Bug projector, laptop and projector use, and educational and supplementary films.

### **Content Outline:**

#### **Literary Genre Units**

- **Fiction:** Various selections and written components with a focus on the elements of fiction (characters, setting, plot, point of view, theme), character motivation, and literary devices
- **Nonfiction:** Various selections and written components with a focus on the elements of nonfiction , different types of nonfiction, and author's purpose
- **Poetry:** Various selections and written components with a focus on the structure and purpose of sound devices, and figurative language
- **Oral Tradition:** Various selections and possible written components with a focus on the following: cultural influences on similarly written myths, fables, and folktales; theme/moral; character archetypes; and character motivation
- **Drama:** Exposure to various forms of drama including stage, television, and film; elements of drama; comparison of drama to prose

## **Writing**

- Formal and informal writing and instruction will occur throughout the year on the following: Multi-paragraph essay; Open-Response questions and answers; journaling; and creative writing (ex. poetry, short stories)
- Review and further instruction of the writing process, topic development, and incorporation of grammatical concepts

## **Grammar**

- Parts of speech, varied sentence structure, punctuation, effective word choice

## **Common Grade-Wide Reading Selections**

- *Monster* by Walter Dean Myers
- *A Christmas Carol* (dramatic version) by Charles Dickens, adapted by Israel Horovitz
- *The Outsiders* (summer reading novel) by S.E. Hinton
- *Out of the Dust* (novel told in verse) by Karen Hesse

## **Teacher's Choice Reading Selections**

**(May or may not be read by each teacher. New selections may be added.)**

- *Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins
- *A Long Way from Chicago* by Richard Peck
- *Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain

## **Resources Used:**

Prentice Hall Grade 7 Literature Book

MacDougal Littell *Language Network*

Various primary texts