Dear Students and Families,

My name is Mr. Denny and it is my pleasure to be the 7th grade Common Core English teacher for the 2019 - 2020 school year at CRMA5. This is my seventh year of teaching at CRMA5, and this is my sixth year teaching 7th grade English. My class website is [www.mrdenny.weebly.com](http://www.mrdenny.weebly.com), and I update it **daily**. My class website contains a list of everything we worked on that day in class as well as that night’s homework. **If you ever need to know what the homework assignment is, check the website!** I encourage my students and families to contact me whenever questions arise about things related to class. My email is [ddenny@laalliance.org](mailto:ddenny@laalliance.org). Parents are also encouraged to contact the school to set up conferences when needed. I look forward to the terrific school year we will all have.

Sincerely,

Mr. Denny

**Class Grade Percentage Breakdown**

Assessments: 45%
Exit Tickets: 30%
Classwork: 20%
Homework: 5%

**Curriculum and Reading**

Students will be using a new Common Core English curriculum called Expeditionary Learning. It is used across most Alliance middle schools, and it features lessons based around novels. These novels will be provided by the school, and *each student is responsible for the novel he or she receives. This includes bringing it with them to school every day and not damaging it.*

Novels we will read this year include:

- “A Long Walk to Water” by Linda Sue Park
- “Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass” by Frederick Douglass

**Tutoring**

Tutoring occurs every Monday from 3:15 - 4:15. Students do not need an appointment to attend. However, students should notify their parents that they will be staying late when they plan on attending. Tutoring exists to allow students to:

- Complete any assignments they were unable to finish during class time.
- Complete a test, quiz, or classwork that was given when a student was absent.
- Make up any missing work.
- Complete any supplementary work to help prepare for an upcoming test or quiz.
Attendance at tutoring is optional. However, it is *highly encouraged* that any student who is not passing English be required by his or her parents to attend. Such arrangements can be made privately with Mr. Denny.

**Technology Procedures**
Each student will be assigned a specific laptop computer to use when required. Using a computer in the classroom is **not** a right, but instead is a privilege (and one that can be lost). The following details the consequences for misbehaving with technology:

- *If a student is misbehaving with technology the student will lose the privilege to use that computer and must complete the assignment on paper.*
- If a student misbehaves with technology multiple times Mr. Denny will call home and arrange a parent meeting with the student to discuss how the student can appropriately use technology in class.

***Misbehaving with technology includes but is not limited to:*
- Throwing, hitting, dropping, or otherwise physically mistreating a computer.
- Playing games on a computer.
- Watching videos.
- Listening to music without permission.
- Looking at unauthorized websites (websites that are either unrelated to an assignment or inappropriate for school).
- Using a Google Document or other website to sent messages to other students that are unrelated to an assignment.

**Plagiarism Policy**
Cheating of any kind is never acceptable. This includes copying work from another student, looking up answers online, taking work from another source without citing or giving proper credit, and sharing information about a test or quiz with a student from another class. Plagiarism or cheating will result in all students involved receiving academic probation via a 30 day contract and they *may* not be allowed to make up the assignment.

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*I have read the class syllabus and understand the policies and procedures in Mr. Denny’s class.*

__________________________________       ____________________________________
(Parent Signature)                     (Student Signature)

__________________________________       ____________________________________
(Date)                               (Date)