Welcome to Owatonna Middle School! My name is Ms. Charlton and I am so excited to be your English teacher. If you have any questions throughout the school year, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Contact Information**

Website: All materials (assignments, slides, texts, newsletters, etc.) can be found on my website. Please check this page regularly for updates on our class.

charltonOMS.weebly.com

Classroom Phone: Please call the following number if you would like to contact me. If I do not answer, I am either teaching or out of the room. Feel free to leave a message and I will return your call as soon as possible. 507-444-8722

E-Mail: This is the best way to contact me directly. [echarlton@owatonna.k12.mn.us](mailto:echarlton@owatonna.k12.mn.us)

**Supplies**

The following supplies must be brought to class EVERY DAY:

* 1 Composition Notebook (for class notes)
* 1 three-inch binder (used for English, Social Studies, Science, and Math)
* Planner (provided by the school)
* Pens and pencils
* Independent reading book

**Our Units**

* Digital Citizenship, Nonfiction, and Fiction Review
* Understanding Identity: *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton
* The Nature of Knowledge: “Flowers for Algernon” by Daniel Keyes
* The Human Spirit: “The Diary of Anne Frank” (Theatrical Version)
* Our Changing World: Dystopian Novel Study

**Enrichment**

Because this is an accelerated class, there are some significant differences between this class and the regular English 8 class. These differences include, but are not limited to...

* Higher expectations for completed work and class behavior
  + an “A” in regular English 8 is considered a “B” in Enriched English 8
* Different late-work policy (see below)
* More independent work completed at outside of class time (especially reading).
* Additional texts, including…
  + *Breaking Night* by Liz Murray
  + *Frankenstein; a Modern Prometheus* by Mary Shelley
  + *They Poured Fire on us from the Sky* by Deng, Deng, and Ajak

**Major Assignments**

English 8 has a focus on writing and speaking. The following assignments will be completed by the end of the school year.

* Personal Narrative
* Argumentative Speech
* Theme Essay
* Research Paper

**Infinite Campus and Grading**

Every assignment is graded on a 10-point scale. Larger assignments will be weighted appropriately (usually at least twice as much as daily assignments).

9-10= A, 90-100%

8= B, 80-89%,

7= C, 70-79%

6= D, 60-69%

5-0= F, 0-50%

Assignments and assessments will be grouped in Infinite Campus based on their learning target. This means all assignments or assessments reflecting the same set of skills will be grouped together in the grade book, making it easier for parents and students to determine a student's progress on each skill. This also means an assignment/assessment may appear in the gradebook several times if it covers multiple skills.

**Late Work Policy:**

All assignments must be turned in the day it is due. In most cases, assignments that are turned in one day late will still be accepted without a loss of points. After the one day “grace period,” the assignment will lose 3 points. After each unit, there will be a “Final Deadline.” That is the absolute final day you can turn in an assignment.

**Cell Phone Policy:**

We will use technology throughout the school year for various activities so I encourage you to bring a device with you, but *it is not required.* You may bring your cell phone/tablet/laptop/etc. to class as long as you…

1. Only use your device when you are given permission from your teacher.
2. Keep it “parked” on the corner of your desk or in your pocket.
3. Make sure that your device is on “silent.”

***Please return the following page. You may keep the rest of the syllabus for future reference.***