

**Elizabeth Forward High School**  
**DI English 10**  
**2017-2018 School Year**

**Teacher:** Mrs. Katie Geis

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**Course Description**

The primary purpose of the direct instruction special education English class is to address those deficits outlined in your child's IEP. Each student presents different deficits with different reading and writing ability levels. During the course of the year, our class focuses on strengthening reading skills. We practice daily warm-ups where we address various writing skills that will be put to the test with creative writing assignments. Each student's English assignment is tailored made for his or her ability level and deficit need.

We begin the year with student reading assessments that determine ability levels after summer break. Each student will be assessed prior to Thanksgiving break to determine how their reading level has improved from the beginning of the year. Another assessment will happen at mid-term, right after Christmas break. These three assessments will help in determining if your child may benefit from an extended school year, which needs to be established in early spring. Or, if your child's ability level has strengthened to the point where he or she can return to regular education setting and experience more success at a higher rigorous level not presented in the direct instruction course.

We will work on a variety of assignments during the class and will utilize the iPads. Students are expected to bring their iPads to class each day. Assignments will be posted on eBackpack. I will track student progress through various assessments- curriculum-based, formative and summative. The grading scale is as follows:

A 90-100

B 80-89

C 70-79

D 60-69

F 59 or below

Students who are legally absent for the entire school day will be given an opportunity to make up all work missed. All work must be completed within a time period not to exceed the number of school days the student was absent. Students who fail to submit a written parental excuse within three school days following an absence will be marked as unexcused. Students who have received an excused absence or tardy will be permitted to make up any classwork missed during their absence; students receiving an unexcused/unlawful absence will not be permitted to make up assigned work for the time absent.

Each day we will begin class by completing a bell ringer. These activities will vary from week to week and result in a cumulative grade at the end of the nine-week grading period. Please check the grade book periodically and ask me about any questions or concerns you may have.

Students are expected to be on task and working during class. Students are also accountable for the following classroom expectations and Academic Integrity rules.

### **PBIS Classroom Expectations**

#### **Be Safe**

Listen to staff

Maintain personal space

#### **Respect Others**

Be on time

Be polite

Use appropriate language and tone

#### **Accountable**

Be prepared

Be honest

Do your own work

Use electronic devices only when permitted

#### **Victorious**

Do your best work

Celebrate academic success

#### **Enthusiastic**

Have a positive attitude

Take ownership of learning

### **Academic Integrity Rules**

\*Do your own work using the resources that you have

\*Be honest with yourself in terms of what you know and what you need to work on

\*Trust that you are capable of doing great work

\*Do not copy another student's work and present it as your own

\*Do not pretend you understand when you don't

\*Do not doubt that you are capable of doing anything but great work

Please feel free to stop and talk with me at any time. Your success is very important to me. I want you to be proud of yourselves! Have a great school year!