

**Mrs. Ball**

**Course Description- 8th Grade Language Arts**

*“If you are not willing to learn, no one can help you. If you are determined to learn, no one can stop you”* **(Zig Zigler).**

I welcome you to this class! It will help prepare you for your high school classes and everyday life. Broad areas of study include **reading for informational text, reading for literature, speaking and listening, language, and writing.**

**Writing emphasis**

**First trimester-** narrative

**Second trimester-** informative

**Third trimester-** argumentative

In the RCSD grading system, the four levels are **Beginning, Approaching, Proficient, and Mastery**. The goal is to reach *Standard Met* (Proficient or Mastery).

Learning behaviors will be reported separately. Students are graded on three behaviors: ***Engagement, Utilizes Feedback and Resources, and Work Completion***. Students receive scores of *Rarely* (R), *Sometimes* (S), or *Consistently* (C).

We will be using the *Springboard* book for our core literature, along with multiple novels. This book will be labeled and left in the classroom at all times. However, *Springboard* will be on-line for your access.

**Supplies Needed-** You need to have the following supplies by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:

* a planner
* one three ring binder (at least one inch )
* notebook paper
* pencils/pencil sharpener/lead
* five dividers
* one whiteboard marker
* one highlighter (gel recommended)

\*\***You must also have a novel to read in your backpack for both Paw period and independent reading assignments**\*\*

**Rules!!**

Practice respect for both teacher and fellow classmates.

Listen the first time.

Always come to class prepared.

Phones put away (and silenced) in backpack

**Discipline Policy**

1st offense- warning

2nd- teacher detention/phone call home

3rd- referral and parent conference

I update my homework every Monday on the school web site, so please check it to see what we are working on each week in Language Arts. You can also e-mail me at [**lball@rcsdk8.org**](mailto:lball@rcsdk8.org) and I will get back to you in a timely manner.

**I have understood the above course description and understand the rules and consequences.**

Student signature Date

Parent signature Date