**Dyker Heights Intermediate School 201**

**Mr. Robert Ciulla, Principal**

**English/ Language Arts Contract for the 2016 - 2017 School Year**

**Mrs. Gross, September 8, 2016**

Dear Parents/ Guardians and Students:

Welcome to the 2016 - 2017 school year! I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable summer. My name is **Mrs. Gross** and I will be your child’s **English/Language Arts** teacher. I would like to take a moment to introduce you to the rules and regulations of my literacy class. I believe we can have a very good and fulfilling year as long as we work together to reach our goals. As your child enters eighth grade it will be a year of many exciting milestones, but also rigorous educational challenges. I hope that we can collaborate on the expectations outlined below for a very positive school experience. I look forward to working with both you and your child throughout eighth grade.

**PARENTAL CONTACT THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL YEAR:**

 **PupilPath: ALL STUDENTS AND PARENTS/GUARDIANS MUST BE REGISTERED ON PUPILPATH**.

* Grades are posted throughout the marking quarter.
* Parents/Guardians are strongly urged to frequently log in to their account to inquire, review and discuss

grades with their child, as progress reports will not be distributed.

* Homework assignments, handouts, projects, due dates, test dates and returned tests will be posted on PupilPath.
* However, ***the information given in the classroom is the primary source of information*** and ***this*** ***website should not be relied on solely***. (Please be sure to have at least one other student’s contact information in case of absence.)
* **School Website:** [**www.IS201k.org**](http://www.IS201k.org):

Look here for general school and grade announcements and resources. High school information will also be posted here. Please, also be advised that the website translates into most languages.

* **Direct Contact with Mrs. Gross:**  You can reach me with ELA and academic related questions at  mrs.gross201@gmail.com  or by calling the school at (718­) 833­ – 9363
* I will also be using **Remind101** to send home text messages regarding classroom information. This system will just be used for me to send home information and is not interactive. Please use the separate information sheet to set your phone up to receive these messages.

**Supplies**: In order to be successful in this class you will need to come to class ***prepared every day*.** You will need:

1. A Marble Notebook or a 1 subject notebook or section in your binder 5. Post - its
2. Loose-leaf 6. Index Cards
3. Pens and Pencils, as well as one colored pen (red, purple etc) 7. Highlighters
4. 2 folders – one to remain in the classroom as a portfolio, 8. Dyker Heights agenda

 one for communications

**Extra Credit**: (+5 Can be applied to any QUIZ only, not applicable on chapter tests) for paper towels, tissues, hand sanitizer pump, baby wipes, cleaning spray or cleaning wipes (Lysol etc.) +10 for a package of copy paper)

***All Materials should be labeled with child’s name and class. They will all be collected on Tuesday, September 13th.*In Class Procedure:**

* Students are required to enter the classroom quickly and quietly. Students are expected to be on time and to participate every day. Participation is necessary to do well in this class. Group assignments will be collected and graded periodically.
* Upon entering the classroom, students should immediately copy the *Focus* and begin work on the *Do Now* assignment. Notebooks are required to be organized and should contain all materials covered in the classroom, from the start of the year.
* Portfolios should likewise be neat and should include all major writing pieces, all signed tests and quizzes, and a few written homework assignments (to be determined later).
* Students should use the standard heading (shown below) in their notebook for each day of class as well as any work being submitted.

 Name School

 Class Date

A rubric will be given for all major writing pieces and projects. Please use the rubric to ensure your material contains all of the necessary requirements. Rubrics should be stapled to each major writing piece. Writing pieces are expected to be submitted on their due date, full assembled, and in the order given in class.

**In Class Behavior:**

Students should always be respectful and polite to each other. Students are expected to remain seated at all times, unless given permission otherwise. In addition, students should raise their hands to speak, and listen quietly and carefully when anyone else is speaking. No electronic devices, gum, candy or food are allowed within the classroom.

**Homework:**

Students are expected to ***read independently*** for at least a ***half hour, every night***, as well as to complete a written assignment for that day. **Failure to complete homework will result in a grade of zero for that assignment,** likewise, homework done poorly or incompletely will receive half credit. As homework is only one component of the final average, ***make-ups will not be accepted unless extenuating circumstances exist. I must be made aware of these circumstances in writing.*** Students will also be required to complete long term assignments, including extended writing pieces. These assignments **must** be handed in on time or I will deduct five points for every late day, **I will not accept anything more than three days late.** If the project is not turned in, it will be given a grade of zero which will make it very difficult to pass for the quarter. These assignments will go toward creating your final portfolio.

**Absence:**

Any homework assigned during an absence is expected to be completed on the day of return, as long as the student was not missing any required materials. Upon return, you will be held responsible for any notes and classwork missed, so you must see me or work with another student to make up this material. If a student misses a test or quiz, they will need to meet with me to set up a time for a retest – students should be prepared to take the missing assessment the day of their return. All absences need to be explained in writing.

**Grading: The grading policy for the class is as follows:**

**60% Assessments including writing, 20% Homework, 20% Classwork (Subject to change.)**

***There is zero tolerance for plagiarism.***

***All tests and quizzes must be returned the day after I return them with a parent/guardian’s signature.***

Thank you for taking the time to review these rules. I hope that this class provides as rewarding an experience for you as I know it will for me.

**Please Note –the New York State ELA Test will be March 28th – 30th**

Sincerely,

Mrs. Christine Gross

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**Please return this form to me signed and dated by both the student and a parent or guardian. I will keep your signatures on record and I will provide each student with a copy of their contract. Again Thank You!**

Parent/ Guardian Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/ Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Name of Contact \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Name of Contact \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Language Spoken at Home (if not English) : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Medical Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian email address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_