Mrs. Brown’s Classroom – Yearbook

**Course Description**

This course is primarily focused on the execution and completion of the district’s yearbook. This class is not the only yearbook class. Ms. Samantha Wright also has a yearbook class that will be teaming with. During this course we will explore and learn skills necessary to construct a quality yearbook. These areas include interviewing, writing, photography and design. The yearbook will composed completely on a web-based program provided by our publishing company, Herff Jones.

**Teacher contact information**

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phone: 903-663-8002

website: www.mrsbrownsclassroom.weebly.com

**Why am I taking this class?**

Yearbook is a unique experience because everything you learn is immediately applied in a real world situation. It requires huge amounts of teamwork. Plus, you have the benefit of being a part of history. The product you have created at the end of the year is a permanent documentation of a year in New Diana ISD.

**Materials**

* One folder with brads or binder (leave in class)
* Pencils and/or pens

**Grading Breakdown**

* Major Assignments/ Tests
* These grades make up 60% of your grade.
  + Examples: reporting at a game, pages in yearbook
* Daily Grades
* Daily grades make up 40% of your grade.
  + Examples: one day assignments in class or out of class

**Policies**

Rules of an Eagle

* Be ***ready***
  + Come to class on time ready to learn
  + Have materials needed with you (i.e. Pencil)
* Be ***respectful***
  + Follow procedures
  + Speak to others with kind words
  + Raise your hand when you want to speak
  + Treat others the way you want to be treated
  + Do not touch other people’s artwork
* Be ***responsible***
  + Clean up after yourself before class is over
  + Turn in assignments on time
  + Lead by example

Discipline

1st infraction: warning

2nd infraction: warning and parent contact

3rd infraction: parent contact and detention with Mrs. Brown

4th infraction: office referral

Make-Up Work

* It is your responsibility to find out what you missed. In this class it is crucial to stay on top of things.
* EXTRACURRICULAR ABSENCE – If you are out due to a school related activity, you will need to get your assignments before you leave and are responsible for getting them turned in when you return.

Late Work

* When an assignment is turned in late points will be deducted. One day late the highest grade you can make is a 70. Two days late the highest grade you can make is a 50. After that, it is a zero. Using class time wisely is important.

FYI

* No Cell phones, unless given permission – for yearbook purposes only (not music, texting, etc.)
* Bottled water only (clear with twist top), no other drinks, no food, no gum (district policy)
* When you are tardy, go straight to the middle school office where Mrs. Toni Holland or Mrs. Karen Brunson will give you a tardy pass. Hand your pass to Mrs. Brown as you enter the room, and sit quietly in your seat.
* When you need to see the nurse Mrs. Brown will fill out the blue hall pass.
* If you need to use the restroom during the art period you will use one of your restroom passes given to you at the start of each 6 week period. Each student will receive 3 passes per 6 weeks. You are not allowed to drop your things off and ask if you can go to the restroom during passing period and to not be counted tardy. Go before you come to class so you won’t be tardy. If you use a pass during class Mrs. Brown must fill it out before you leave the room, and it must be handed in when you return.

**Course Breakdown**

Topics we will be exploring during the year:

1st semester –

Basic reporting/interviewing/writing skills

Basic camera use and taking quality photos

Introduction to EDesign

2nd semester –

In depth use of EDesign and building of the yearbook

Yearbook Staff Privileges

With your staff badge

* you will be allowed in athletic events when reporting
* able to use your cell phone, or your own camera during the school day for photos and voice memos (only if following the rules)
* ALL WITH EXPRESSED TEACHER PERMISSION!!

A note on cell phones:

Most kids now-a-days have smart phones. I know not all do.

The yearbook class has access to only a few cameras. In order to get more pictures I have talked to Mr. Pope about using cell phones to take pictures. You do not have to have a phone with a camera to be in yearbook. I want to be very clear on that.

Rules for using a cell phone for yearbook –

If you have an assignment from Mrs. Brown that requires taking a picture or conducting an interview and you want to use the camera feature of your phone or the voice memo app, or take a picture with any camera,

1. you must have your current assignment sheet with you.
2. You must also ask your teacher’s permission to have that electronic device out and to use it, if you are in class. If in the hallway or at lunch be ready to produce your assignment sheet if a teacher tries to take up your electronic. If you are texting or talking on it IT WILL BE TAKEN UP.

If the rules cannot be kept, then you will not have these privileges and that will also make things more difficult as we try to get pictures for the yearbook.