



Pine Valley Middle School STUDY SKILLS Course Description 2009-2010

Mrs. Moore, teacher

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My prep period is from 2:00 – 2:45 p.m.

Please feel free to contact me with any concerns or insights.

Organizational and Study Skills:

Students will be coached and supported in organizational and study skill strategies and habits. Backpacks, folders, and binders will be cleaned out and organized on a weekly basis. Additionally, there will be a block of time devoted to homework support on a daily basis. Students will be provided supplies and materials (including use of computers) to promote success in their classes.

Grading Policy:

Grading will be based on a point system. This grade will be based on student participation and on-task behavior in class. **Each day, a student can earn 5 points for completing their Binder Reminder, remaining on-task, and working quietly.** Binder Reminders not brought to Study Skills class or incomplete Binder Reminders result in a loss of 2 points. If students complete all of their work, they are expected to read quietly.

(3rd period Study Skills students will earn 2 of the 5 points for having a "Sustained Silent Reading" – SSR – book to read each day and for reading during this valuable time.)

99% + = A+

94% - 98% = A

90% - 93% = A-

87% - 89% = B+

84% - 86% = B

80% - 83% = B-

76% - 79% = C+

73% - 75% = C

70% - 72% = C-

66% - 69% = D+

63% - 65% = D

60% - 62% = D-

Below 60% = F

Absences: Because Study Skills is a participation-based course, students can make up the missed 5 points per day by completing all absent work in their classes. When all absent work is complete, the 5 Study Skills points will be added back into the Study Skills grade.

Progress Reports: Students who have earned a grade of C- or lower will be sent a progress report in the mail halfway through the quarter. Grades for Study Skills can be monitored on schoolloop website. Grades are updated weekly.

Binder Reminders:

Students will be expected to write down their assignments for each of their other classes in their binder reminders on a daily basis. If there is no homework, they will write "no homework." It is imperative that each student use their Binder Reminder on a daily basis.

Discipline Policy:

I expect students to behave. All school and district regulations are to be followed. (See Student Handbook.) Each class member will follow the rules listed on the next page:

- Respect the rights of others. No one shall behave in such a manner as to interrupt the ability of another to learn or teach. This also applies to substitute teachers who may take over the class.
- Respect property. Take care of your property, the property of others, and the property of the school.
- Be prompt to class. This means, "**Be in your seat when the bell rings.**" The teacher will handle the first three tardies. The first tardy is a warning. The second and third tardies require a trash pickup. School administrators will handle the fourth and any further tardies and parents will be notified.
- Bring all required materials to class. Binder reminders are to be used on a daily basis. Be prepared to work on the assignments you have from your other classes.
- Keep your hands and your feet to yourself.
- Refrain from chewing or eating anything unless given permission. A litter pick-up will be assigned to any student who is chewing gum.
- Do not toss or throw **anything**.
- Use appropriate language at all times, and never use put-downs.
- Any serious physical or verbal misbehavior will result in immediate removal from classroom to the principal or assistant principal's office, and parents will be notified.

On Fridays, students who have passing grades and appropriate behavior in Study Skills class for the week will be allowed to have 30 minutes of game time.

I look forward to a successful and rewarding semester for your student and hope to play an integral part in that success.