

Welcome to Mrs. Pfeil's Class!

Hello. My name is Mrs. Pfeil (pronounced "file"). I will be teaching English 9, AIS 9, English 12, Creative Writing, Stagecraft, and Public Speaking for the 2020-2021 school year.

Here is what you will need for English 9 or 12:



- A three-ring binder with paper
- Pens and pencils
- An independent reading book of your choice (English 9 only, but juniors and seniors are also encouraged to always have a book by their side!)
 - We will be visiting the library if you do not already have a book to read.



- No supplies necessary for public speaking, but you may want to bring your own headphones and flash drive.

Homework will consist of independent reading (ELA classes only) and any work or reading assignments students do not complete in class. Late work's scores will be deducted by 10% for each day until the assignment is turned in. Here is some overall information about the types of content we will cover together this year:

Contact Information:

Room: 43

Phone: 716-557-2227 ext. 243

Email: tpfeil@hcsbobcats.org

Office Hours: TBD

Text/Email Reminders: See the Remind.com links on my teacher webpage

Website: Find my website using the www.hinsdalebobcats.org Middle/High School, Teacher Pages 7-12 directory

Grade 9	Grade 12
<p><u>Writing:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response to literature • Research writing • Creative writing <p><u>Literature & Other Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short stories and poems • Shakespeare's <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> • <i>Fahrenheit 451</i> • <i>The Hobbit</i> <p><u>Language/Other:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grammar activities • MLA citations • Microsoft Office Suite publications 	<p><u>Writing:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior research project • Creative writing • Literary analysis essay(s) <p><u>Literature & Other Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short stories and poems • Literature circles • Historical texts • Shakespeare's <i>Macbeth</i> <p><u>Language/Other:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • College and career readiness • Scholarship research and essay revision • MLA citations
Public Speaking	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morning announcements • Digital media design • Video production • Presentation technology and applications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Process demonstration • Position speech • Communication skills • TEDxHinsdale presentation

"I planned on putting a meaningful, inspirational, yet humorous quote here, but then I forgot." –Mrs. Pfeil

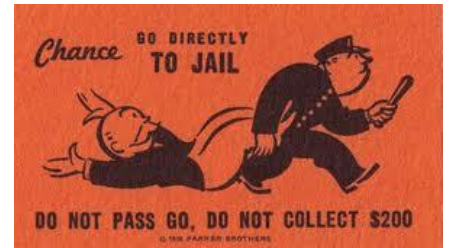
ELA Rules.

Now that we've gotten that out of the way, here are Mrs. Pfeil's expectations:

1. No One Likes a Cheater

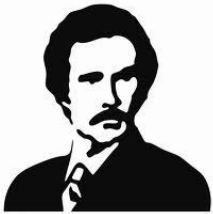
Once, twenty years ago, I attempted to cheat at a game of Monopoly. My tattletell little brother noticed that I overpaid myself from the bank and ratted on me. To this day, so many years later, I can't play a board game with my family without being reminded to play fair.

Cheating is *never* worth it, especially in school. You have an entire staff of teachers who want nothing more than to see you succeed. **If you need help, ask for it.** If you don't study for a test or quiz, try your best anyway. Your failures will become lessons on why studying and taking school seriously is so important.



In ELA especially, **plagiarism** can be a major issue. It's SO EASY to NOT plagiarize: simply give credit to your source. We will be reviewing citation skills throughout the year, so there's no excuse to plagiarize. If I catch you using someone else's work as your own, you will **both** receive a zero on the assignment.

2. Stay Classy



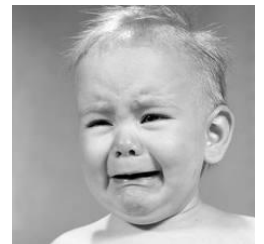
It *should* go without saying, but behave while in my class. If I'm speaking, be respectful and listen. **Respect will always be reciprocated.** Emergency drills, instances when we have classroom visitors, and classes taught by a substitute should warrant your very best behavior. This includes **NO CELL PHONE USE IN CLASS.** Trust me, you can survive 43 minutes without looking at your phone.

You are all high school students, and from time to time we will read, discuss, listen to, or watch material that is "emotionally charged or may use language outside of a student's particular cultural experience" (EngageNY). When discussing these works in class, you are expected to always use **school-appropriate language and behavior.** If you feel uncomfortable with a piece we are reading or discussing, please let me know privately as soon as possible.

3. No Whining

If I assign homework over the weekend, don't groan and tell me how unfair I am. If we're reading a piece of literature or poetry that isn't your favorite, suck it up and do the work anyway. If I put you in a work group that doesn't include your best friend or secret crush, get over it and talk to someone new.

Someday you will have a career and a boss who won't want to listen to your whining; I'm simply preparing you for your future.



4. Always Do Your Best

I get it...some of you are excellent readers and writers already. For others, ELA has always been a struggle. That's okay. I will do my best to make this class beneficial to all students (and sometimes even fun), but I need you to give your best effort in return. I expect high-level work from all of you at all times, and I will not accept any less.