

ENGLISH ELECTIVES

JOURNALISM

Students will:

- Build upon writing skills learned in English classes, applying all conventions of Standard English
- Use a variety of writing styles to engage their audience
- Write a well-organized, supported research article
- Use quotations from primary sources, particularly people
- Locate, evaluate, and utilize a variety of resources
- Offer suggestions to other students in a peer editing format
- Recognize the various opportunities in the field of journalism



CREATIVE WRITING

Students will:

- Analyze form and structure and write short stories, poems, plays, and songs
- Explore reading and writing within a wide variety of styles and forms of literature
- Understand and learn to create theme, plot, setting, tone, etc.
- Develop and expand current writing skills and fluency
- Experiment with closed and open form poems and meter
- Learn the elements of songwriting
- Create portfolios to showcase their best work
- Learn to revise, critique, and edit their work and the work of others

OUR MISSION

The Pentucket Regional School District seeks to inspire its students with a love of learning and to enable them to develop their academic potential and individual talents in an atmosphere that cultivates independent thinking. We will prepare our students to develop respect for others and to be responsible citizens of a global society.

OUR VALUES

Respect
Accountability
Integrity
Opportunity

Schools in the Pentucket Regional School District are dedicated to providing an up-to-date and challenging curriculum at each grade level. These curriculum brochures represent an overview of the comprehensive competencies at each grade level and in each subject and/or specialist area. Students and parents are able to review the rich curriculum offered in our District.

Pentucket Regional School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or age.



Dr. Frederick N. Sweetsir School
104 Church Street
Merrimac, MA 01860
Tel: 978-346-8319/Fax: 978-346-7844
Grades Pre K-2

Helen R. Donaghue School
2 Union Street Extension
Merrimac, MA 01860
Tel: 978-346-8921/Fax: 978-346-7839
Grades 3-6

Dr. Elmer S. Bagnall School
253 School Street
Groveland, MA 01834
Tel: 978-372-8856/Fax: 978-521-8956
Grades Pre K-6

Dr. John C. Page School
694 Main Street
West Newbury, MA 01985
Tel: 978-363-2671/Fax: 978-363-2234
Grades Pre K-6

Pentucket Regional Middle School
20 Main Street
West Newbury, MA 01985
Tel: 978-363-2957/Fax: 978-363-2720
Grades 7-8

Pentucket Regional High School
24 Main Street
West Newbury, MA 01985
Tel: 978-363-5507/Fax: 978-363-2730
Grades 9-12

Central Services
Office of the Superintendent
Office of the School Committee
22 Main Street
West Newbury, MA 01985
Tel: 978-363-2280/Fax: 978-363-1165

Visit us online @ www.prsd.org



ENGLISH CURRICULUM GRADES 9-12



PENTUCKET REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

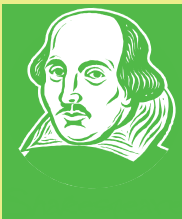
Groveland
Merrimac
West Newbury

Pentucket ... a culture of continuous learning

GRADE 9

Students will:

- Recognize and apply literary archetypes
- Introduce and practice the five-paragraph essay of opinion
- Recognize and edit syntactical errors in writing
- Read and analyze the epic as a literary form
- Analyze the qualities of an epic hero via the prototype (Odysseus)
- Infer the customs and beliefs of a culture from its literature
- Explore the style and techniques used by authors to explain and analyze literary elements: dramatic irony, foil, literary naturalism, natural imagery, juxtaposition, symbol, parallel structure
- Identify and analyze various literary themes: fate vs. free will, the value of material success, the ability of power to corrupt, the individual's role in society, the metaphor of literature for one's journey through life
- Explore poetic elements in written expression: simile, metaphor, alliteration, onomatopoeia, personification, and imagery
- Examine words from literature for meaning, message, mood, and use in written expression
- Analyze structural elements: setting, plot, character, theme, point of view
- Become familiar with the Elizabethan theatre, its audiences, and its conventions
- Select and support a topic of analysis
- Study William Shakespeare, his life, and his impact on literature



GRADE 9 (continued)

Students will:

- Develop and improve writing skills: fluency, elaboration, organization of ideas, directive topic sentences or thesis statements, support for generalizations, textual support, correctly cited and punctuated sentences
- Use reference and technological resources
- Accurately use grammar, mechanics, capitalization and spelling
- Develop and apply strategies for public speaking situations, both formal and informal

GRADE 10

Students will:

- Master lists of unfamiliar words and learn how to use them in context
- Know and utilize the writing process (prewriting, outlines, drafts, peer-editing, and revisions)
- Gain knowledge of and incorporate the components of well-written essays, including a clear focus, logically connected ideas, and evidence derived from the literature
- Become familiar with rules of grammar and usage and be able to use them consistently in one's own writing
- Continue to practice the Essay of Opinion: format, introductions, transitions, conclusions, internal citation, works cited page
- Become familiar with the structure, components, and meanings of short stories, novels, nonfiction, poetry, and drama
- Improve close reading skills to identify literary elements in the readings



GRADE 10 (continued)

Students will:

- Appreciate literature as an art form and discuss this art using the language of literature
- Exercise skills of planning and executing presentations
- Research and discuss a topic then argue a position
- Prepare for long composition, multiple choice and short essay portions of the MCAS exam
- Participate and interact appropriately in large and small group learning situations
- Take responsibility for one's role in the learning environment

GRADE 11

Students will:

- Demonstrate how historical events are reflected in American literature
- Explain relationships in literature between literary devices and themes
- Acquire new vocabulary to enhance spoken and written language
- Define the American Dream, trace its evolution in American literature, and investigate the forces that have corrupted it
- Understand and ask the types of questions that drive literary discussions
- Analyze authors' literary techniques for rhetorical and aesthetic purposes
- Master the structure of the essay of opinion; learn to expand upon written analysis and write effectively on demand
- Show an understanding of the roots and trajectory of American literature
- Read and analyze literary texts of all genres for literary and historical significance



GRADE 11 (continued)

Students will:

- Improve comprehension and depth in the explication of poetry
- Incorporate quotations from literary works in their writing and cite these using MLA guidelines

GRADE 12

Students will:

- Learn and use new vocabulary words in order to enhance written and spoken English
- Analyze various genres of literature using the basic elements of fiction
- Discuss and analyze various works of literature such as *Macbeth*, *Hamlet*, *Lord of the Flies*, *Beowulf*, *Canterbury Tales*, *Oedipus Rex*, and *The Divine Comedy* within their historical context
- Use appropriate and correct conventions of Standard English
- Organize ideas and craft sentences for maximum clarity and effectiveness
- Write an organized, supported research paper
- Use quotations from primary and secondary sources to support thesis, and cite according to MLA guidelines
- Master the four types of discourse, including narrative, descriptive, expository, and persuasive
- Identify and analyze various literary themes using comparative analysis
- Express their analytical ideas through oral presentations and class discussion
- Employ various techniques to revise and improve writing, taking into consideration purpose and audience
- Be familiar with the major literary movements and the writers of the literary canon

