

Mrs. Nesbitt

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Middle School Science And Social Studies

About Me

My name is Miriam Nesbitt and I will be your child's Science and Social Studies and Health/Life Skills teacher for the 2018-2019 school year. I was born and raised right here in Philly. I am a widow and the mother of one son. I went to Eastern College where I studied Elementary Education and Theology. I have been teaching for 23 years and teaching at HPCA for 16 years. I am a huge Star Wars fan, I love to sing, listen to music, read, hike, and I love coffee especially Starbucks.



What you should expect from me...



It is my job to make sure that your child is more than prepared for high school and beyond. You should expect me to teach the school's standard curriculum for Science, Social Studies and Health in a way that is appropriate for your child's grade level. You should expect homework at least 3-5 times a week. I should return tests and quizzes in a timely fashion and update the online grading system, RenWeb, as soon as possible. I will return phone calls and address concerns at my earliest convenience and make time to meet with parents when necessary. I will treat your child with respect and handle any disciplinary problems in an appropriate way.

What I expect from every student

I expect all students to come to school on time except for emergencies or extenuating circumstances. I expect students to come to school prepared every day. This includes having all the necessary school supplies and assignments that are due. **I DO NOT accept late assignments, except for illness, injury, or death in the family.** Your child needs to learn to use their time wisely and to work under deadlines now. This will help them to learn to manage their time in high school, college, and in the work force. I expect all students to adhere to the code of conduct as outlined by the school in the student handbook.

This includes wearing the proper uniform. Students should treat each other with respect both inside and outside of school. Bullying in any form will not be tolerated. I expect each student to do his or her absolute best work.



How parents can help...



As parents, you are your child's first and most influential teacher. Your child will take their cues from you. If you make education a top priority, they will too.

Make sure your child is prepared for school every day. Your child should get enough sleep every night (9-11 hours) and be sure they have a healthy (low-sugar, low-carb, high in protein and whole grains) breakfast. These two things have a huge impact on your child's ability to remain alert in class. Make sure your child has attended to their personal hygiene (shower, deodorant, clean clothes). This helps to cut down on unnecessary distractions.

Make sure your child brings their school supplies and assignments every day, and replenish their supplies (especially pens, pencils, and paper) as needed.

Please stay informed. Take the time to read the Student Handbook and the Parent's Handbook and go over the guidelines with your children. Parents can regularly monitor their child's progress on RenWeb. RenWeb has a smartphone app that allows you to check up on your child's grades, upcoming tests, and assignments from your phone. Utilize this tool to avoid surprises on report card day. HPCA Middle school teachers also send home weekly reports of your child's progress **every Friday** that needs to be signed by you and returned to school.

Do not hesitate to call if you have any concerns about your child's grades, behavior, or any incidents that happen in school.

Middle school can be a challenging time of transition for both students and parents, but if we work together we can help our students through it. I look forward to seeing you in the fall.

Supply List

1. **One three-ring binder** to be used only for science and social studies
2. **One divider** to separate the science and social studies sections
3. **College-ruled notebook paper** (steady supply)
4. **Pencils** (steady supply)
5. **Pens** - blue or black ink (steady supply)
6. **Pencil sharpener**
7. **Two glue sticks**
8. **Scissors**
9. **Crayons, markers, or colored pencils**
10. **Highlighters**
11. **Pencil case**
12. **Three packs of index cards**
13. **A pocket dictionary**
14. **1 composition book** (7th Grade only)

This second list of supplies is **NOT MANDATORY**. These are supplies we use in science lab. If you wish, feel free to donate any item from this list for science.

- A box of tissues
- 1 container of anti-bacterial wipes
- 1 roll of paper towels
- Alka-seltzer
- Baking soda
- Yeast
- Ziploc bags (any size)
- Salt
- Peroxide
- Rubbing alcohol
- Iodine
- Cotton balls
- oil (vegetable, corn or canola)
- dish detergent (green or blue)
- toothpicks
- food coloring