



Tonia Miller

Middle School English Language Arts Teacher

This will be my 9th year as the HPCA Middle School English Language Arts Teacher (ELA) and 6th grade homeroom teacher. I have a Bachelor's degree from Temple University and a Master's degree from Eastern University. I have been part of the HPCA community for 14 years. I can be reached at toniam@hpcaphilly.org.

My class instruction is based on grade-level core standards. Reading comprehension and writing skills are essential for every subject in school. Clear written communication is even more important during this time of distance learning when students communicate with teachers digitally.

There are three subjects within ELA: **Reading, Writing, and Grammar**.

- The **Reading** class is based on comprehension, analysis, and vocabulary. The students will read engaging teacher-selected fiction and nonfiction text. They will also learn literary elements and comprehension strategies. Students will select their own books for independent reading. Vocabulary work will include context clues, roots, and affixes. The goal is for students to express active thought and demonstrate comprehension of text.
- During **Writing** class students will learn to write 5-paragraph essays, literature responses, text citations, and creative narratives. The goal is for students to write with structure, clarity, and precise language.
- **Grammar** class is based on the mastery of the 8 parts of speech, capitalization, punctuation, and sentence structure. The goal is to understand grammar concepts and apply the concepts in writing.

Older students truly need the support of their parents. Be encouraged that your time invested in their education will bear fruit in the future!

Class Supplies

Item and Quantity
1 3-Subject spiral notebook
1 Pack of lined index cards
Sticky notes/ Post-It notes
1 Composition Book (for 6 th grade only)
Pens with blue or black ink
Red or another color pen (for making corrections)
Pencils
Glue
Tape
Markers
Colored pencils
5 Different color highlighters
Scissors
2 Twin-pocket folders
2 Boxes of tissues for classroom use (6 th grade only)
2 Rolls of paper towels to for classroom use (6 th grade only)
Optional Supplies
1 or more bottles of hand sanitizer
1 or more containers of disinfectant wipes
<i>We know these items are in short supply, and we would greatly appreciate any amount you are able to provide.</i>