

Beginning Art Parent / Student Contract

Instructor: Ms. Detwiler - Rm. 205

*“Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once he grows up.”
-Picasso*

Course Description: Beginning Art focuses upon teaching students the fundamental Foundations of Art. This includes exploring the Elements of Art: line, shape, form, value, space, color, texture and Principles of Art: balance, emphasis, movement, proportion, rhythm, unity, variety relating to artistic design. The student’s individual exploration will include a variety of drawing mediums, including pencil, charcoal, conte, pen & ink.

Materials: Please see Beginning Art Supply List.

Attendance: Students are required to be in class on time. Each day students receive 5 points daily for timely attendance and participation. If they have an unexcused tardy, they will not receive daily points. If students are absent, they must make up coursework that was missed. This can be done during lunch or after school, by appointment. Students will be given the same number of days to make up missed work as equivalent to days missed during their absence.

Work Ethic: Students are advised to use class time in a constructive and creative manner. If you are wasting class time, you will be sent to ALC for the remainder of the class, or you may be given an art room cleaning task. Great Art work takes commitment and hard work. It takes focused effort, research, experimentation and practice to apply concepts and techniques to accomplish desired results. Remember, whatever you put in to this class is what you are going to get out of it.

Grading: The grade earned in this class reflects a variety of elements: attendance, participation, timely completion of assignments, class preparation with homework completed, and overall art skill development and proficiency. Each project is assessed on how the student meets the stated learning objectives.

- **Major projects** (*Long term assignments with a 2 or more week time frame and worth up to 100 points*) are graded with written or verbal feedback.
- **Minor projects** (*sketchbook assignments worth up to 50 points total*) are for planning and major project development and will be checked on due dates, with verbal feedback. All assignments require: effort, a teachable attitude, good use of materials and skill mastery to attain a good grades in this class.

Late Work: All Major Art Projects will have a due date and students will receive a grade on that date for what has been accomplished - whether their projects are completed, or not. These grades may be raised when projects are finished, but students may suffer a loss in points due to late turn-in, unless they’ve demonstrated need for extra time due to exceptional quality art work, or personal circumstances.

All Minor Art Projects, will also be given a due date. Students who are not finished will have one extra day to turn in their minor projects but this will result in a full letter grade point reduction. No additional days will be given to gain credit for minor art assignments unless a student has an excused absence. However, it is up to the Teacher’s discretion to extend due dates for individual’s dependent upon the quality of the artwork being developed, and the time needed to execute it properly.

Classroom Seating: At the beginning of the year, when students first return to school, we will have a seating chart for the purpose of efficiency. This helps me as a teacher to learn students’ names. Within a couple of weeks, students will have an open seating arrangement and be allowed to sit where they would like as long as classroom conduct is appropriate and productive. The Art Room is a hands-on learning environment. It is enjoyable and necessary for students to have freedom to move about for supplies & demonstrations, etc. If students are respectful, well behaved and productive in this open seating format, they will enjoy this privilege. If

students are disruptive or consistently out of their seats & causing distractions during learning, they will return to a classroom chart. Disruptive individuals will be sent to ALC to work for the class period. They will not receive class participation points for that day. They will receive a disciplinary write up and will be assigned a permanent seat when they return to class.

Workstation and Table Clean-up: Art is messy at times, depending on the medium being used. Students should never worry about making a mess at their tables during the creative process. When work time is at the end of class they must clean up before leaving at the bell. This means putting away classroom supplies and wiping off any excess art mediums such as paint, charcoal, eraser debris, graphite, etc. left behind at their seat. If students leave a mess, they will be reminded to clean up. If it happens repeatedly, they will be given classroom cleaning chores such as cleaning sinks, paint brushes, etc.

Food & Drinks in the Art Room - Water Only! Food & drinks other than water are not permitted during class periods. If you are in my classroom during lunch, you are welcome to bring food and drinks into the classroom as long as you remove your trash and pour liquids down the drains and do not dump them in the trash can which causes foul odors for afternoon classes resulting in complaints from students and janitors. If you have a health issue where you must have periodic snacks during the day, and must eat during my class period, you'll be permitted to go to the courtyard to take your snack; however, please ask permission first.

Acceptable Cell Phone Uses include:

* **Music:** In Art Classes, unlike other classes, students will have the privilege of cell phone use to listen to music with headphones only. If there is a buzzing sound from high volume coming from the headphones, students will be asked to turn it down. If students misuse their music privileges during the class period, they will lose their music privilege. Students are not to watch music videos on phones while in class, music streaming only.

* **Parent / Employer Calls:** Students may use their cell phones when it is necessary to take a call or text from a parent or employer, however you must first inform the teacher of your phone use and you will be allowed to take the conversation outside the classroom in the hall or courtyard.

* **Art Project Research & Art Photography:** On certain occasions, cell phones may be used for researching an art project, or photographing a reference for an art lesson. In these cases, students will be given permission from the teacher to use them.

Cell Phone Misuse Policy: If students misuse cell phone privileges by playing games, texting, snapchatting, watching videos, or any other activities along other than privileges stated above, their cell phones will be confiscated until the end of the class period, parents will be notified, students will receive a disciplinary write up, and further cell phone privileges will be revoked.

Please Print information, then Sign and Return by August 17 for 10 extra credit points. Thank-you!

Parent/Guardian _____ Student Name _____

Parent Signature _____ Student Signature _____

Parent Email _____ Parent Phone# _____ Date _____