

Welcome to 6th Grade English/Language Arts
with Mr. John Gallagher!

About the Class:

In 6th Grade, English/Language Arts is broken into two separate sections, **Readers' Workshop** and **Writers' Workshop**. The classes may be taught by different ELA 6 teachers, but the structure and goals are the same. The workshop model allows students to read and write what they want. This year, we will work through units like Social Issues, Fantasy, Poetry, and Personal Narrative.

6th Grade Reading and Writing Curriculum:

Quarter 1:

Reader's Workshop: Building a Reading Life, Character Analysis

Writer's Workshop: Personal Narrative

Quarter 2:

Reader's Workshop: Social Issues Book Clubs

Writer's Workshop: Literary Essays

Quarter 3:

Reader's Workshop: Non-Fiction

Writer's Workshop: Non-Fiction Writing and Research

Quarter 4:

Reader's Workshop: Fantasy Reading

Writer's Workshop: Fantasy Writing

About Mr. Gallagher (he/they Gender Pronouns)

This is my fifth year teaching 6th Grade ELA at Hidden River Middle School. I've also taught in the Richfield and Minneapolis Public Schools at the high school level. At Hidden River, I teach Reader's and Writer's Workshop, 6th Grade Foundations, and I help lead Hidden River's LGBTQ student group, GSA (Gender Sexuality Alliance).

Outside of school, I love running, watching sporting events, baking desserts, and being outdoors. I also coach for Central High School's Cross Country and Track and Field team.

You can contact me best by email (john.gallagher@spps.org), by texting or calling Google Voice (651)419-1777.

**Grading:**

Like all 6th Grade Teacher at Hidden River, Mr. Gallagher has two grading categories. All assignments will be one of these two grading categories.

Formative Assessments (40% of final grade): This includes daily assignments, discussion posts, homework assignments

Summative Assessments (60% of final grade): This includes any reading or writing projects, essays, or long term assignments. Assignments in this category are to measure how much you've learned, often at the end of a unit.

Mr. Gallagher's Expectations:

In my class, students are expected to follow these guidelines. These are both my own expectations, as well as common expectations for all Hidden River students in classrooms and school spaces.

Respect: We respect all students and staff at Hidden River. We treat all people at Hidden River with kindness and inclusivity. Anyone choosing to show disrespect towards any member of Mr. Gallagher's classroom is not welcomed in our space.

Technology Use: We use our school iPads appropriately for school use. We also have our phones out of sight, in a locker or somewhere else where it won't be used in class. We take care of our iPads and keep them safe.

Giving our Best Effort: No matter how we are feeling each day, when we enter Mr. Gallagher's class, we make sure we are trying our best. I am always here to help students with anything they need, but we always give our best effort.

Reading 20 Minutes a Day: We can always be better readers! We need to read at least 20 minutes each day so that we can be more ready for being adults in the future.

Failure to follow these expectations will lead to different consequences, depending on the situation. Some consequences include:

- Phone call or email home
- Meetings with Behavioral Specialist or 6th Grade Principal
- iPad use taken away or limited
- Other consequences depending on the situation