

WELCOME TO OT LITERACY WITH MS. HART!

Ramsey Middle School

WELCOME

I'm excited to be your Reading teacher this year and look forward to a year of learning and growth! In OT Literacy, we will read increasingly difficult texts to build higher-level reading and thinking skills, while expanding our comprehension, fluency, and vocabulary. Here's what to expect:

- **You will choose all the texts that you read in my classroom!** I will challenge you to read texts at your level, and these choices should increase and grow more difficult throughout the year!
- **You will keep a reader's notebook** to track your reading, thinking, and ideas about concepts in your reading and the world beyond your reading.
- **You will engage in higher-level thinking** about concepts that MATTER in our lives and the world around us. Be ready to share your thinking in journal entries, small group discussions, and Socratic Seminars (classroom discussions).

UNITS OF INQUIRY

Quarter 1 – Identity: How does a person develop or learn who they REALLY are? What happens to WHO we are when WHERE we are changes? When who we're WITH changes?

Quarter 2 – Resilience: Are our destinies fixed, or do we shape them? How can another person's thinking give power to your own? How does one overcome? What's most important for a person's resilience?

Quarter 3 – Engaging Others: What does it mean to be invisible? When individuals change, what happens to the world around them? Which is the greatest force—love, hate, indifference, etc.?

Quarter 4 – Build Capacity: How deep are the roots of inequality? How are you impacting Earth—and what is Earth's impact on you? What is the power of one voice in the fight for justice?

GRADING

40% - Reader's Notebook: You will use your reader's notebook to keep a reading log, track your thinking and ideas about your texts, and record new and interesting words and ideas. (A reader's notebook entry is due Friday each week.)

20% - Conference Assessment: Twice each quarter, you will confer with the teacher to show your thinking about your books—explaining concepts and giving examples, etc. You will demonstrate comprehension and analysis of two books you completed at your level each quarter.

40% - Reading Independence: Independent readers get started on their own, finish books, find new books to read, and stay focused on their reading without reminders from the teacher. Reading independence is assessed once per week. (10 points/ weekly)

