



Language Arts

The Fairview Language Arts Program is designed to foster critical readers, strong writers, and articulate speakers. It is our goal that our students read, understand, and interpret literature as a record and expression of human experience. The courses of study outlined below give academic preparation for students to pursue the future learning endeavor of their choice. Support services for a diverse student population are provided within the context of our courses.

General Notes:

1. As a general rule, students will receive an average of approximately 30 minutes of homework per night, regardless of course level. However, given the nature of advanced course work in the honors course, some students may need to dedicate more time working through assignments and readings.
2. A good predictor of success in a future course is how well students have performed in past courses. In addition, students should consider their level of engagement in their current Language Arts classes. If a student is genuinely engaged in the class, fulfilling all requirements, and is comfortable with the level of challenge, then a similar course offering for the next grade level is appropriate. If a student is having difficulty completing assignments on time and is not fully completing reading assignments, then a level change is recommended.

Honors/ PIB Language Arts

Course Characteristics:

- Writing intensive curriculum with frequent and varied writing assignments throughout the year
- Advanced reading materials, including summer reading assignments
- Curriculum and assessment geared toward international and national standardized tests as a culminating course event
- Extended assignments and regular patterns of homework build toward increased autonomy

Necessary Skills:

- Strong autonomy and independent learning
- Advanced reading and comprehension skills
- Strong writing skills, demonstrating increased sophistication in organization, sentence structure, and diction

College-Preparatory

Course Characteristics:

- Reading and writing as a key element of the curriculum, writing process emphasized
- High school level texts supplemented with advanced works
- Curriculum and assessment geared toward preparation for standard district assessments and college entrance exams
- Regular patterns of homework and project-based assignments foster academic study skills

Necessary Skills:

- Ability to work independently with additional learning support available as needed
- Interactive and critical reading
- Competent writing skills with an understanding of the writing process