**Course Description:**

Wildcat Pride is a mash up of a leadership and yearbook class. The blending of these two subjects creates numerous opportunities for students to think critically, to design projects that help our school and our community, and to become better leaders and designers.

**Teacher Availability:**

I am normally available after-school from 2:45-3:30. The best way to reach me initially is through email. Once we have set-up a meeting time, I prefer to talk on the phone or face-to-face. Since I teach a leadership class as well, I tend to have dozens of voice mails from ongoing leadership projects.

**Behavior:**

I expect students will learn soft skills in school as well. My mantra as a teacher is be respectful, be driven, and be creative. My entire class revolves around this mantra and, in regards to behavior, what it means to be respectful to ensure that I can create the best citizens as they move through my class and our school.

**Classroom Rules:**

1. Preparation is key.
2. Do. Your. Best. Always.
3. Take responsibility for yourself and your learning (i.e. Get caught up when absent).

**Helpful Sites:**

* Herf Jones E-Design - <https://www.hjedesign.com/eDesign.html>
* Blackboard - <https://newberg.parentlink.net/main/login>
* My Blog – <https://mrmclay.weebly.com>

**Growth Mindset:**

I am committed to your student’s learning. We will have multiple opportunities for your student to attack skills that they might still be struggling with (Winston Churchill has a funny quote about ending a sentence with prepositions: This is the sort of English up with which I will not put). In short, encourage your student to take these opportunities to sharpen their skills. I will try to use a format that clearly shows how many opportunities that they will have, but please be patient. This is new for me, and I have their best interests at heart.

That being said, making phone calls for projects, working on the E-Design website, designing community service projects in their neighborhood may occur at home. A strong leader is someone who carries this home. Please encourage them to be involved and do not hesitate to let me know if they are extremely busy with sports/club activities. A super stressed student is not a strong leader.

**Projects:**

As you can probably guess, I love projects. Most of everything that we do is project-based. Why, projects? They challenge students more than most assignments and they embed student buy-in. They also allow students multiple opportunities to work on a skill, since they must have their final product ready for submission.

September

* Team Building
* d. School Project Ideas
* Courtyard Redesign
* Photography and Design Basics

October

* d. School Project Ideas
* Library Redesign Ideation
* Library Redesign Approval (Mrs. Mac)
* Boo Ball Dance
* Yearbook Photo Dump

November

* Yearbook Photo Dump
* Library Redesign Painting Starts
* Food Drive

December

* Library Redesign Finishing Touches
* Yearbook Template Design
* Yearbook Photo Dump

January

* Yearbook Feature Writing
* Yearbook Interviews
* Yearbook Photo Dump

February

* Hollywood Dance
* Yearbook Photo Dump
* Yearbook Feature Writing Rough Drafts

March

* Talent Show Planning
* Yearbook Feature Writing Final Drafts
* Yearbook Design Rough Draft Due
* Final Yearbook Photo Dump before Spring Break

April

* Early April: Yearbook Final Draft
* Courtyard Paint Project d. School Ideation
* Courtyard Paint Project Approval (Mrs. Mac)
* Material and Groups Assembled for Project

May

* Talent Show Planning
* Courtyard Paint Project Starts
* Courtyard Paint Project Finishes
* Field Day Planning

June

* Talent Show
* Field Day Planning
* Field Day

**Due Dates:**

Students must turn in a project on its due date. We are attempting to teach real-world skills and due dates are essential. Projects are scaled with many check-ins to help ensure that students do not fall behind. Students will have one week to turn in missing projects and missing assignments. They will read as MIF (missing formative) or MIS (missing summative) in the grade book. After one week, the assignment will be counted as 1/4 on the proficiency scale.

**Proficiency:**

4 – Exemplary 3 – Meets 2- Nearly Meets 1 – Does Not Yet Meet