

## CURRICULUM SYLLABUS

**CURRICULUM AREA:** Journalism

**COURSE TITLE:** Journalism

**GRADE LEVEL(S):** 8

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is designed as an introduction to journalism. Numerous assignments and activities will help students develop effective journalism skills.

**COURSE EXPECTATIONS/GOALS/BENCHMARKS/OBJECTIVES:**

The goal of the journalism class is to sharpen numerous academic skills. These skills include, but are not limited to, writing, researching, organizing, speaking and interviewing as well as computer use.

**COURSE TEXTBOOKS/MATERIALS:**

Miscellaneous journalism materials  
No formal student text

**MAJOR COURSE ASSIGNMENTS/REQUIREMENTS:**

Students will have the opportunity to learn and practice writing editorials, columns, feature stories and reviews as well as take polls and photographs. They will eventually sharpen their skills to the point they are ready to produce our school newspaper, *The Spyglass*.

**GRADING AND ASSESSMENTS:**

In addition to learning and practicing the above skills as well as creating the newspaper, students will be graded on several other assignments. For example, students are required to learn journalism terminology and will be quizzed. Students will also be required to read the newspaper (provided each week by the instructor) and summarize 1-2 articles each week.

**HOMEWORK:**

During the first 2-3 weeks of the semester, students will find they have homework approximately 2-3 times per week because they will be learning and practicing many new skills. Once we begin work on *The Spyglass*, the majority of work will be done in class. However, students will have jobs from time to time that will require them to do some work outside of class.