

Newspaper

The main goal of this class is to create and publish a school newspaper. The focus of the class will be on journalistic writing, editing, and design. Students will also have an opportunity to compete in U.I.L. Journalism events.

I will treat this class as a high-level production class. Students will be trained to use CS5, which includes Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, and InDesign, all of which are professional publication programs. After some basic instruction, students will generate story ideas for the school newspaper. They will then be assigned specific stories, conduct interviews, write and edit stories, and design layout for the newspaper.

Grades will be divided into the standard 80% Summative 20% Formative breakdown. When working on an issue of the paper, the Formative grades will be based mostly on participation—is the student working toward meeting their specific deadlines, and smaller parts of the writing process: story ideas, interview questions, etc. Finished stories and layout will make up the Summative portion.

My goal is to produce, print, and distribute eight newspapers this school year. Part of the journalism TEKS require ad sales. For this reason, the cost to print the newspapers not paid for by the school. Over the past years, we have been able to pay for the printing through ad sales and fund-raising. Students will be required to sell ads or participate in fund-raising.

Deadlines: We run entirely on a deadline-based schedule. Newspaper stories not turned in on time will result in a drastic lowering of your grade, and likely re-assignment. Finishing your newspaper assignments should always be your first priority in class. You should have ample time to complete all assignments by your deadline.

Work Night: Thursdays from 4:25 to 6:00 p.m. are a required work night for all editors. Other staffers are welcome and encouraged to come work on their pages at that time.

Remind 101: Text @mrsriemer to 512.351.4762 to receive Newspaper reminders or email @mrsriemer @mrsriemer@mail.remind101.com

If you have any questions or need to talk to me, please don't hesitate to contact me. My number at school is 594-1247. My email address is kari.riemer@pfisd.net.