**Spanish 1 Syllabus – This class counts for high school credit!**

Dear Parents,

I am excited to be working with your child this year! Learning another language has many benefits, including:

* Has a positive effect on intellectual growth.
* Enriches and enhances a child's mental development.
* Leaves students with more flexibility in thinking, greater sensitivity to language, and a better ear for listening.
* Improves a child's understanding of his/her native language.
* Opens the door to other cultures and helps a child understand and appreciate people from other countries.

**A. Course Description and Outline**

Spanish 1 is the foundation for their Language B acquisition. Students in this class are in either in their first or second year of Spanish. In this course students will build vocabulary and grammar skills to help them communicate in Spanish. Below is a quick outline of the various topics that will be covered each quarter, along with major assessments.

1stquarter: 2nd quarter:

Greetings, time/numbers/date, Vocabulary over food /places

Vocab. over school/activities/ AR/ER/IR Verbs, questions words, locations

Subject pronouns, ser, articles estar, gustar, ir

Weather/seasons, adjectives jugar, ir + a

 **Criterion C Oral Assessment** **Criterion B Reading Assessment**

**Unit 1A Test Unit 2A Test**

**Criterion A Visual Assessment Criterion D Writing Assessment**

**PE Unit Test Unit 3 Test**

 **Mid-Term exam**

3rd quarter: 4th quarter:

Vocab. over family/restaurant/house Vocab. over daily routine/ community service

Possessive adjectives, “go” verbs More stem changers, Demonstrative adjectives

Present progressive, stem changers reflexive verbs, “gustar-like” verbs

Comparisons & superlatives Direct Object pronouns

Tú commands personal a

**Criterion C Oral Assessment 7A Test**

**Criterion B Reading Assessment Criterion D Writing Assessment**

**Chap. 5A & 6A Test Criterion A Visual Assessment**

 **Final Exam**

**B. Grading Policies and BYOD Policy**

 In this class I follow the grading policies established by the Hamilton County Department of Education. **I DO NOT ACCEPT LATE WORK.** An absent student will be allowed 5 school days to complete the work for full credit; however, it is the student’s responsibility to ask for the assignment once they return to school.

 **Electronic Devices are not allowed in this class and may only be used at the teacher’s permission.** The device must be turned off and put away at all other times. Failure to comply with the teacher’s request will lead to confiscation of the device..

 **Assignment Breakdown** **Grade Breakdown**

 Class work/Quizzes - 50% 93 – 100 A

 (With 10% coming from homework) 85 - 92 B

 Tests/Assessments - 50% 75 – 84 C

 70 - 74 D

 Semester Exams are 20% of the semester average 69 and below F

**C. Major Assignments**

Students will have various assessments throughout the year. Each week the student should expect to have either a quiz or a test on material learned in Spanish thus far. **Word or On-line translators are not allowed. If students use a translator for any reason, they will receive a 0 on the assignment**. It is obvious when one is used, and in the long run, it only hinders learning. Students will be assessed during the year on 4 basic IB and language skills. Below is a list of what each IB criterion measures.

***IB Criterion A: Comprehending Spoken and Visual Text***

-Identifies basic facts, messages, main ideas, and supporting details

-Recognizes basic conventions

-Engages with the spoken and visual text by identifying ideas, opinions, and attitudes and by making a personal response to the text

***IB Criterion B: Comprehending Written and Visual Text***

-Identifies basic facts, messages, main ideas and supporting details

-Recognizes basic aspects of format and style, and author’s purpose for writing

-Engages with the written and visual text by identifying ideas, opinions and attributes and by making a personal response to the text

***IB Criterion C: Communicating in Response to Spoken, Written, and Visual Text***

-Responds appropriately to simple short phrases

-Interacts in simple and rehearsed exchanges, using verbal and non-verbal language

-Uses basic phrases to communicate ideas, feelings and information on a variety of aspects of everyday topics

-Communicates with a sense of audience

***IB Criterion D: Using Language in Spoken and Written Form***

-Writes and speaks using a basic range of vocabulary, grammatical structures, and conventions; when speaking, uses clear pronunciation and intonation.

-Organizes basic information and uses a range of basic cohesive devices

-Uses language to suit the context

**D. Teacher Expectations**

My classroom rules are centered on three principles: respect, responsibility, and teamwork. Therefore students are expected to respect themselves, their peers, their teacher, and their environment at all times.

* Students are expected not to talk while someone else is talking.
* Students are expected to not laugh or make fun of other students.
* No Bullying. Bullying of any kind will not be tolerated.
* Students are expected to come to class **fully prepared** (includes supplies and assignments). Students will not be permitted to return to their locker.
* Students are expected to be on time for class.
* Students are expected to have work completed on time.
* Students are expected to actively and constructively participate in class.
* Students are expected to work with others in the class.
* Students are expected to be their own advocates for learning.
* Students are expected to take responsibility for their actions.

**E. Procedures and discipline policies**

Students who do not follow the rules of the class will receive a verbal warning at first. If the behavior continues they will receive a Misconduct Report. If your student receives an MR, you will receive an e-mail from me on the first offence informing you of what has occurred. If a second MR is given then you will receive a phone call from me. If a student continually disobeys the rules a referral will be sent to an Administrator. These Misconduct Reports will be entered in our online behavior system and more consequences will follow with each MR. If a student is blatantly disrespectful, I will call an Administrator to have them escorted from the class.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns. If you e-mail me, you should receive a response back within 24 hours. I have included here a list of websites which offers additional Spanish practice and information. They are: StudySpanish.com, learn\_Spanish\_help.com, and quizlet.com

Parents, please e-mail me once you have read this letter. Please include any current questions you have at that time.

Sinceramente,

Rebecca Cacicedo

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