



Francis E. Santos  
Acting Superintendent of  
Education

# Luis P. Untalan Middle School

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Barrigada, Guam 96913  
Phone: 300-2726/7  
website: [www.ums.gdoe.net](http://www.ums.gdoe.net)



Agnes A. Guerrero  
Principal

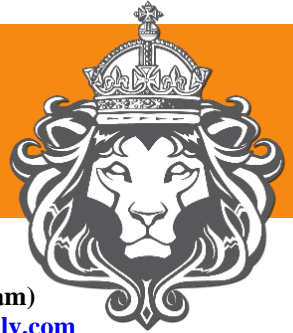
**“Home of the Wildcats”**

*Accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges 2021-2027*

## 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE READING SYLLABUS

TEAM LIONS SY 2022-2023

INSTRUCTOR: Mrs. M. Borja



Contact Numbers:  
Contact Information:  
School/Team Webpage:

735-3110/3111 (school)  
[mcborja@gdoe.net](mailto:mcborja@gdoe.net), @671begoodreadbooks (Instagram)  
<http://www.ums.gdoe.net> , <http://www.8alions@weebly.com>

**GDOE VISION STATEMENT:** Every student: Responsible, respectful, and ready for life.

**GDOE MISSION STATEMENT:** Our educational community prepares all students for life, promotes excellence and provides support.

**LPUMS MISSION STATEMENT:** The Luis P. Untalan Middle School community empowers students with the knowledge that will enable them to be competent, productive, and responsible citizens.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Students will be exposed to a wide variety of text to cultivate an understanding and an appreciation for the written word in different forms (poetry, novels, short stories and informational texts); develop the ability to comprehend and analyze literature while expanding their vocabulary and writing strategies. Students will also develop their written and oral presentation skills in preparation for high school and beyond.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVE:**

The purpose of this course is to help improve reading comprehension and fluency, expand vocabulary and develop critical thinking skills in preparation for high school and beyond.

### **TEXTBOOKS:**

- Literature. Grade Eight (Common Core Edition.) Prentice Hall, 2012
- Words Their Way. Vocabulary for Middle and High School. Vol. 1. Savvas Learning Company LLC., 2014
- My Perspectives. Grade 8. Savvas Learning Company LLC., 2017

### **INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES:**

The following strategies may be used with all students: Novel Studies, Affirmations, Alternative Assessments, Graphic Organizers, Character Education, Cooperative Learning, Foldables, Modeling, Peer Assisted Learning, Essays, Projects, Rubrics, Lecture, Jig Saw Discussion, Read Aloud, e-books, Technology/Internet Resources Mnemonic Devices, Google Classroom and other digital apps, Independent Study, Group Projects, Think-Pair-Share, Games, Oral presentations.



## **“School of Excellence”**

Corazon Elane  
Assistant Principal  
Curriculum and Instruction  
Special Programs

Jesse San Nicolas  
Assistant Principal  
Student Support  
Student Attendance & Discipline

Jeanette Superales  
Administrative Officer  
Business Office

*The Luis P. Untalan Middle School community will empower students with the knowledge that will enable them to be  
COMPETENT, PRODUCTIVE, and RESPONSIBLE citizens in our society.*

## STANDARDS AND SKILLS:

### GDOE Priority Standards, Skills, or Topics (PSSTs)

Revised and Revised Spring 2022

Content: Reading	Grade: 8th
PSST 1	
MS RL.8.1 Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.	
PSST 2	
MS RL.8.2 Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot; provide an objective summary of the text.	
PSST 3	
MS RL.8.3 Analyze how particular lines of dialogue or incidents in a story or drama propel the action, reveal aspects of a character, or provoke a decision.	
PSST 4	
MS RL.8.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.	
PSST 5	
MS RI.8.1 Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.	
PSST 6	
MS RI.8.2 Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to supporting ideas; provide an objective summary of the text.	
PSST 7	
MS RI.8.3 Analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals, ideas, or events (e.g., through comparisons, analogies, or categories).	
PSST 8	
MS RI.8.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.	
PSST 9	
MS RI.8.5 Analyze in detail the structure of a specific paragraph in a text, including the role of particular sentences in developing and refining a key concept.	
PSST 10	
MS RI.8.6 Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how the author acknowledges and responds to conflicting evidence or viewpoints.	
PSST 11	
MS RL.8.10 By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, at the high end of grades 6-8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.	
PSST 12	
MS RI.8.10 By the end of the year, read and comprehend literary nonfiction at the high end of the grades 6-8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.	

## MATERIALS:

Luis P. Untalan Middle School will provide your child with the following items:

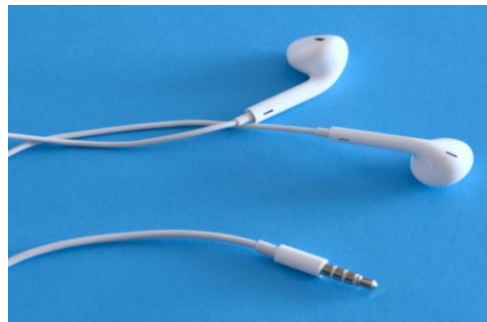
- 3 composition notebooks
- 10 plastic pocket folders with prongs
- 1 3-pack retractable erasable gel pen (colors: black, blue, red)
- 1 jumbo size correction tape
- 1 clipboard

**\*\* Recommended (not mandatory) supplies for this class:**

**-Filler Paper**

**-Pencils**





**-Earphones or headphones for use with laptops. (FYI: Teacher has a class set of headphones that students can use but they will be used by other students as well so if you prefer to have your child use their own equipment, please purchase a pair, and allow them to bring it to school daily. Affordable earphones/headphones can be found at stores like ROSS, Shop-4-Less, and at most gas stations.**



**CLASSROOM RULES/EXPECTATIONS:**

No matter which Model of Learning you will be following this school year, I expect all my students to be Punctual, Prepared, Respectful, and ready to Participate.

PUNCTUAL	PREPARED	RESPECTFUL	PARTICIPATE
-Be on time. -Complete/turn in assignments on time -Use your time wisely	-Keep track of due dates and deadlines -Keep notes and study them -Check your email and team website regularly	-Listen to and pay attention to teachers and peers -Follow school rules -Be kind to others	-Try new things -Have a positive attitude -Try your best -Show your team & school pride

**GRADING POLICY:**

Student achievement will be assessed and reported using the current GDOE Board-Approved guidelines.

- Final Grades will be assessed at the end of 1st and 2nd SEMESTER. (2nd and 4th Quarter) Final Semester Grading will reflect a Standards-Based/Tiered Grading system with 6-levels classified as the following categories:

PROFICIENCY LEVEL	DESCRIPTION	CRITERIA
4	<b>Exceeds Standard</b>	In addition to demonstrating understanding and mastery of standard, content knowledge, and skills, student goes beyond what is explicitly taught or is able to apply the standard or skill to real world situations
3	<b>Proficient</b>	Demonstrates understanding and mastery of standard, content knowledge, and skills.
2	<b>Approaching Proficiency</b>	Defines and Identifies content knowledge or uses skills alone but needs help demonstrating full understanding of standard.
1	<b>Needs Support</b>	Even with help, the student has difficulty performing basic skills or defining content knowledge and is well below grade level standard.
0	<b>Unable to Perform</b>	Unable to Perform: Even with significant help, the student is not able to perform any of the basic skills or define content knowledge.
NE	<b>No Grade / No Evidence</b>	No Work or Not Enough Work submitted to make a final determination. (See teacher comments).

*NOTE: Increments of .5 may be used to recognize partial mastery of a level.*

- “Point in Time” evaluations or Progress Reports will be issued at the end of 1st and 3rd Quarter.

This Progress Period/Grade will be reflected as either:

- Pass (P):** Enough evidence to determine passing
- Not Enough Evidence (NE):** Not Enough Evidence to determine passing
- No Grade (NG):** No contact with student or no evidence submitted. This grade will remain until changed by teacher or school official and will NOT automatically convert to an “F” as per existing grading policy.

**CITIZENSHIP:**

- Citizenship and Life Readiness Skills will be determined by the following criteria:
  - Engagement:** Participates in class discussions and activities, asks and answers questions, and is on-task either in-person or on video conferences, depending on model of learning or event.
  - Organization and Planning:** Organizes notes, handouts, supplies, and instructional materials; plans assignments, activities and tasks effectively; and manages time efficiently to meet deadlines.
  - Completion and Submission of Assignments:** Completes and submits assignments regularly and on time.
  - Conduct:** Displays respectful and appropriate conduct when communicating with teachers, peers, and others either online or during face-to-face instruction.
  - Accountability:** Follows school rules and takes responsibility for actions.
  - Attendance & Punctuality:** Attends class regularly and on time.
- Citizenship and Life Readiness Skills will be reported using the following indicators: **4, 3, 2, 1, NE**

4	3	2	1	NE
Excellent	Satisfactory	Needs Improvement	Unsatisfactory	Not Enough Evidence, No Evidence, or No Effort

**ATTENDANCE:**

Students are expected to attend and be on time to all class periods. Tardies and absences will be noted, and parents will be notified after multiple occurrences. Excuse notes must be provided to the SSO office upon returning to school. Absences of 3 days or more require a doctor's note to be considered excused. For more detail regarding the LPUMS attendance policy, please refer to the school handbook.

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Dear Students and Parents,

This year is truly going to be a team effort on all parts: teachers, students, and parents. As the teacher I am committed to the instruction and well-being of all my students, and I promise to do my best to create a safe and comfortable learning environment and be available for guidance. My expectation for the students is for them to work towards being the best version of themselves possible: responsible, curious, hardworking, and kind. The role of the parents is to be involved. Ask your child about their classes, help with homework, and stay connected with the school and team. I will try my best to make this year fun, productive, and memorable. By working together, we can make this year both educational and enjoyable. I am looking forward to this year with you. Go WILDCATS!! GO LIONS!!!

Thank You,



Mrs. Madrid Borja, LIONS Reading Teacher, LPUMS

ADMIN. APPROVAL: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

# LPUMS SCHOOLWIDE POLICIES

## COMPUTER/NETWORK ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

LPUMS offers students access to computer technology and the Internet. Students must agree to abide by the rules of this policy in order to use the school's computers and network. The educational use of LPUMS computers and networks should be geared towards classroom activities, assignments, communication, and career development. All students should have access to the Internet through their classrooms, library, or school computer lab. Appropriate online etiquette should be conducted when using LPUMS computers.

## TEXTBOOK POLICY

Students will be issued a numbered textbook (whether it be issued to be taken home or to be used in class). Students will be responsible for their issued textbook should it be damaged or lost. If a class set is provided, students must immediately report to the teacher any visible damages seen so the teacher may investigate. Parents will be charged should it be determined that the student was negligent with the book, causing damage or resulting in it being lost. (Please refer to [www.gdoe.net](http://www.gdoe.net) to Board Policy 601 for the detailed policy.)

## DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Directory Information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. If you do not want DOE to disclose directory information from your child's educational records without your consent, you must notify the school principal of this request in writing within 2 weeks of the start of the school year.

## MEDIA RELEASE

To promote positive school-wide events at LPUMS, student photographs and interviews may be forwarded to various news media and/or posted on our school website. Should you opt not to have your child's photograph taken, you must notify the school principal of this request in writing within 2 weeks of the start of the school year.

**\*\*\*PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THE BOTTOM PORTION OF THIS PAGE TO YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER. KEEP THE REST OF THE SYLLABUS FOR YOUR REFERENCE.\*\*\***

**PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION TO YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER**

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have received, read, and understand my child's course  
(Print Parent Name)

syllabus for \_\_\_\_\_. In addition, I have received information regarding the  
Computer/Network, Textbook, Directory of Information, and Media Release Policy, and I am aware and  
acknowledge the requirements of each.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address

**\*\*TEACHER MUST RETAIN THIS PORTION IN FILE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.**