¡Bienvenidos a la clase de la Señora Bohan!

September 2, 2017

Dear parents and guardians,

¡Hola! I am so pleased to be your child’s Spanish teacher this year. After a fun filled summer with my family, I am now looking forward to a fun filled year with my Spanish students. Below is some information that I hope you find good to know.

***An Overview***

This is my 8th year as a Spanish teacher in Region #10 Schools, and I use a variety of teaching methods to foster confidence, fun and proficiency. The overarching goal of Spanish is for students to learn the Spanish language and culture in a manner that is educational, engaging and useful to them in the world outside of the classroom. Throughout the year students will develop improved listening, writing, speaking and reading skills in Spanish via a variety of lessons and activities centered around cultural and interdisciplinary themes.

***Class Expectations***

In order to ensure that our classroom is an excellent environment for learning to take place, I have the following expectations for my students. Students are expected to:

1. Be respectful and attentive.
2. Be responsible.
3. Be an active participant.

***Standards-Based Instruction and Grading in HB World Language***

The WL Department has identified six “Priority Standards” for WL instruction and assessment. All activities, assignments, and assessments will align with these standards and focus on skills needed to attain these standards:

* Effectively engage in spoken conversation. (CONV)
* Give and request information in writing within a correspondence. (CORR)
* Understand and interpret language through listening (INTERP-L)
* Understand and interpret language through reading. (INTERP-R)
* Present information orally on a variety of topics. (PRES-SP)
* Present information in written language on a variety of topics. (PRES-WR).

***Academic & Social Responsibility:***

The Region 10 mission is:

*“To provide a safe and respectful learning environment to promote academic excellence and personal growth. We work collectively to cultivate the skills and knowledge of our students to create inquisitive learners, innovative leaders, and responsible citizens.”* An important part of learning is putting forth significant effort, helping others while collaborating with them, respecting others, and using technology appropriately. Therefore, in addition to academic learning, we will focus on helping you attain the skills necessary to be lifelong learners.

***Grading:***

* 90% of a student’s grade will be based on the six Priority Standards.
* 10% of the grade will be based on Academic and Social Responsibility .

The World Language Department has adopted department **rubrics** to evaluate assignments and assessments. The rubrics will be provided with the assignment with the expectation that students self-evaluate prior to submitting anywork.

***Re-take policy:***

The goal for us as teachers is to help students learn while also helping students to become a responsible learner and citizen. Students will be allowed to retake assessments as long as it is determined that a retake/redo will promote better understanding and encourage students to work to their aximum potential. A Request to Retake Form must be completed and the assessment taken within a week.

***Homework***

There is no formal homework.

However, one of the keys to learning a language is to see it, hear it and use it as much as possible. Therefore, I encourage students to practice Spanish outside of class whenever they can.

Some great ways to practice Spanish outside of school include teaching Spanish to a family member, listening to Spanish music, turning on Spanish subtitles when watching a DVD, reviewing our vocabulary list at home with Quizlet or flash cards (which I post on the website and email out), speaking Spanish with a friend or family member who knows Spanish, listening and looking for Spanish outside of the school, or using any of the websites that Señora has links to her website.

There are always optional enrichment activities available for any students who happen to like homework or additional practice and would like to complete activities outside of class.

***Communicating with Señora Bohan***

As a mom and teacher I know the importance of communication between parents, guardians, and teachers.  Thus, there are various ways in which we can share information and communicate.

I encourage you to follow me on Twitter at Sra\_BohanHB this year where I will post great photos, sound bites, videos, announcements, links and more from my classes this year.  (See permission form for photos on next page)

Also, the class website will be updated regularly.  Simply go to <http://mrsbohan.weebly.com/> where you can see our class announcements, links to great web sites and more.

An email will be sent about once or twice a month with information about in class activities, upcoming assessments, events and any other Spanish related news. Please let me know if you do not being receiving those but would like to be included in receiving them.

I am greatly looking forward to the year ahead and getting to know both you and your student.  Please feel free to contact me at any time with questions.  I can be reached via email at bohana@region10ct.org or via phone at 673-6163.   We can always arrange a time to meet after school in person as well.

Sincerely,

Alecia Bohan

Spanish Teacher

Har-Bur Middle School