

John Jay Middle School

P.O. Box 387

Katonah, NY 10536

914-763-7500

"Learn. Care. Lead."

Mr. Jeffrey Swiatowicz, Principal

Ms. Monica Bermiss, Assistant Principal

Ms. Shantel Brooks, Assistant Principal

2019-20 Open House

JJMS Goal: To take the time to get to know our students well and use that knowledge to increase student engagement in our classrooms.

Classroom Mission: I believe in helping students develop a growth mindset to be able to use what they know, have the sense of calm, patience, and perseverance necessary for expanding their knowledge and skill set, and to acquire new skills. I believe students should be engaged in specific learning experiences, using skills and strategies modeled and reviewed. Ultimately, students should select strategies that work best for them as learners and apply them with minimal teacher prompting.

Subject: Special Class ELA

Teachers' Names: Elissa Rekow, teacher; Laura Habal, program assistant

Curriculum: A multi-sensory reading program for older elementary-aged students who struggle in reading. Students rotate through an instructional model comprised of whole-group, small-group and individual learning as they work on skills and strategies related to comprehension, word attack, vocabulary development, note-taking, paragraph and multi-paragraph writing. The individual portion of the model involves students using leveled instructional software to work on comprehension, vocabulary, spelling, word recognition, decoding, writing, and reading aloud. Students are supported in independent reading of leveled text through the use of graphic organizers that focus on comprehension and writing activities. 60 minutes per day.

Grading and Homework: Tests/quizzes: 50% (rskills tests count twice), Classwork: 30%, HW: 20% Final Average: Trimester 1: 33.3%; Tri 2: 33.3%; Tri 3: 33.3%

Homework is posted daily on echalk on the students' Team pages. No homework is given on Fridays, though students are expected to read at least 20 minutes per day. Students are permitted to make up missed homework assignments. I will contact you after 3 missed assignments within a 6-week period. At a third missed assignment, the student will be asked to come during recess to make up any missing assignment.

Resources: Students can complete instructional software sessions at home by going to: <https://h100000958.education.scholastic.com/slms/studentaccess>

Extra Help: Tuesdays 2:50-3:25; Students can be picked up or take 4:15 bus

Teacher Contact Information: erekow@klschools.org; 914-763-7500 box #9550