

# BRDHS BELLE RIVER DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL



# **Department of English**



English is a compulsory credit for every academic year. Four English courses are required to graduate. The department also offers creative writing and media studies courses. An exciting course for our grade 11 students is NBE, Understanding Contemporary First Nations, Metis and Inuit Voices,.



### **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

#### English Destreamed Grade 9, ENLW

This course enables students to continue to develop and consolidate the foundational knowledge and skills that they need for reading, writing, oral and visual communication. The course is designed to be inclusive of all students in order to facilitate their transition from the elementary grades to the secondary level. It offers opportunities for all students to build a solid foundation in language and literacy, broaden their knowledge and skills and develop their identities as critically literate learners. This approach allows students to make informed decisions in choosing future English courses based on their interests and in support of their future plans for apprenticeship training, university, college or the workplace.

#### English Locally Developed, ENGIL

This course provides foundational literacy and communication skills to prepare students for success in their daily lives and in the workplace. The course is organized by strands that develop listening and talking skills, reading and viewing skills, and writing skills. In all strands, the focus is on developing foundational literacy skills and on using language clearly and accurately in a variety of authentic contexts. Admission into this course is conditional upon recommendations made by staff.

### Preparing for Secondary School English:

- Invest in a a good word processing program like Pages or Microsoft Word
- Encourage reading of any kind at home
- Be aware of due dates for major assignments

•Encourage communication between student and teacher to clarify expectations

 Encourage students to have their own email address and be able to attach documents .
Encourage them to utilize their board provided student email for this purpose.

### Preparing for the O.S.S.L.T

All students are required to successfully pas the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test in order to obtain their secondary school diploma. This test is written in grade ten, but efforts will be taken to review the skills needed to pass the test in all grade nine courses.

# **English at BRDHS**

Belle River English embraces the rich diversity of its community and our English curriculum and classrooms reflect our commitment top fairness, equity, inclusion and respect. Our tests are culturally diverse to reflect the truth that grater equity means greater student success. We strive to build environments that are inclusive and safe. Some of our brand new texts are: <u>Fire Keeper's</u> <u>Daughter, Long Way Down, Born A Crime, the love and</u> <u>lies of Rukhasana Ali, and Things Fall Apart</u>.



## ENGLISH DEPARTMENT EVENTS

### **Stratford Trip**

Typically, the English Department hosts a field trip to the Stratford Festival. This is an excellent opportunity for students to experience live theatre. Information about these field trips is available through the English department. Next year's trip is perfect for grade 9s! We are planning a trip to see Romeo and Juliet, one of the main texts in grade 9 English.



### **Belle River Noble Reporters**

Our team of reporters gather school news through interviews and research, verify the information for acccuracy, write a story, engage in revisions and editing and finally submit it the Lakeshore News for publication! This is a great club to join if you love writing and want to do the job of a real reporter! One of the best ways to improve your skills is to write as much as possible. Being a Nobles reporter will allow you to enhance your abilities and have a lot of fun doing it!

#### <u>The Pluralist</u>

BRDHS students have had many successful entries in the The Pluralist, a publication of poetry, prose and art work, generated by secondary students in the Greater Essex County District School Board.

### **DEPARTMENT HEAD OF ENGLISH**

Ms. A. Ramcharan

Check us out at www.bellerivernobles.ca