**High School Credit Spanish- 8th Grade- 2014-2015**

**Nathan Melnik** **nathanm.melnik@cms.k12.nc.us** **Room 560**

**Course Description**

This course is offered to students as the second half of a two year program for high school credit. Students will learn how to listen, read, write and speak at an introductory level.

Throughout the semester we will be covering giving directions, getting around the school and around town, leisure time, sports, weather and other fun topics. Students will have the opportunity to develop both listening and speaking skills, along with some writing and limited reading in Spanish.

Please note that there is an end of year test for Spanish.

**Objectives**

The goal of this particular foreign language class is productive and academic. It is my belief that each and every student will leave this class being able to converse using real-world Spanish. “I can” statements following state guidelines are the cornerstone upon which this goal is to be built.

**Materials**

The teacher requests that each student come prepared each day for class with: a blue or black ink pen, a number two pencil, a binder (may also be used for other classes), loose-leaf paper, and a positive attitude.

**Homework**

Homework is a purposefully chosen tool which reinforces what was covered in class. It is a way for students to solidify the learning that has occurred in the brief time we have together. That being said, homework will be issued on a regular basis. You can help your child succeed in the classroom buy encouraging them to review vocabulary terms (kept in their binder) as well as assisting them in remaining organized and prepared.

**Make-up work policy**

*Excused absences*: upon receipt of a note from home, students will have up to 5 days to receive full credit. It is the student’s responsibility to contact teacher for missing work. Missing work will be located in each grade’s absent folder. This folder will always be in the back of the class.

*Unexcused absences*: students will have to make arrangements with the teacher. Full credit will be given provided completed work is turned in a timely fashion.

**Tardy Policy**

Because late arrivals to the class are quite disruptive, Ridge Road has the following policy regarding tardies:

1st tardy: Warning

2nd tardy: written warning and conference with teacher.

3rd tardy: Silent lunch, conference with team and parent contact.

4th tardy: referral to grade level team leader.

**Behavior/Rules**

1. Respect yourself, others and the teacher.
2. Come to class prepared and on-time.
3. Bring a positive attitude.

My class has very few rules. Essentially I ask students to be respectful to me, to themselves and to those around them. I ask them to come to class prepared and ready to learn. I feel that these simple rules encompass everything that I expect students to do/not do in my class.

*This year I will be using the website* classdojo.com  *to monitor student behavior (both positive and negative). You will receive an email each week or two informing you of your students behavior).*

**Consequences for rule violations:**

1. First infraction is a warning.
2. Second infraction is a phone-call home.
3. Third infraction is a parent-conference and a referral.

**Grading Policy**

Classwork = 45% (This breaks down to 5% warm-up, 10% notebook, 25% quizzes, and 5% participation)

Homework = 10%

Formal Assessment = 45% (25% Tests, 20% projects)

**Communication**

If you would like to speak with me, I am always available via email @ nathanm.melnik@cms.k12.nc.us

Should you desire to speak to me over the phone, the number is: 980-344-3410

To the Parent and the student:

As the parent or guardian of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that seventh and eighth grade Spanish are taken for high school credit. Furthermore, I understand that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will be given a grade that will transfer to the high school level upon completion of the class. I also understand that my child will not be able to move onto the second half of Spanish (8th grade Spanish, unless he/she passes the first half.

Signature of Guardian\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Name of Guardian, printed)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Child\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Name of child) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_