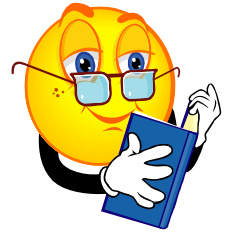


# ACTION SYLLABUS 8TH GRADE

## CLASSROOM RULES

1. **Be Safe.**
2. **Be Responsible.**
2. **Be Respectful.**



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The goals for students that participate in the Action classroom are: engagement in challenging projects and activities, a raised self-awareness, and strengthening of skills required to be effective, independent, life-long learners. Some activities in the classroom are tailored to the student's abilities and interests or allow the student choice in how to complete the assignment. Students will also gain a better understanding of themselves in terms of giftedness and how that can affect all aspects of their life.

## ABOUT MRS. PENNINGTON—WELCOME TO MY CLASSROOM

This is my seventh year teaching gifted education at Nevada Middle School, my 12th year teaching in Missouri, and my 16th year teaching. Before moving to Nevada, I taught in the West Plains School District for 5 years. Four of those years were teaching a 6th grade classroom and one year was teaching in a 4th grade eMINTS classroom.

The eMINTS program was a state funded, technology-rich grant program for classrooms. I went through over 100 hours of training in the use of technology in everyday classrooms during my one year as an eMINTS teacher.

Before moving to Missouri, I taught Title I reading and math for four years in Kansas and also worked as a Regional

Director for the American Heart Association.

I earned a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from Bethany College in Lindsborg, Kansas as well as a Master's Degree in Educational and Counseling Psychology from the University of Missouri—Columbia. I am also certified to teach gifted

### MAJOR PROJECTS

- College Survey
- America's Trash—Recycling Project
- 2 Independent Studies
- Research Paper—8 pages

Visit my classroom website to read up to date news such as topics of study, current assignments, and major projects.

[www.penningtonweb.net](http://www.penningtonweb.net)

Email Mrs. Pennington at  
ppennington@nevada.k12.mo.us

Or Call 448-2040 ext. 4058

Conference Period 7:55-8:47

**GENERAL CLASS INFORMATION**

Student work is expected to be completed and turned in when due. I do accept late work, but it will receive a reduced grade.

Any writing assignment is expected to be written so that I can read it and using correct conventions such as spelling and punctuation. The use of a computer to complete writing assignments is encouraged when possible.

Classroom assignments may be open ended and include creative options. Many of these assignments will be introduced with a scoring rubric so that students know how they will be graded.

Students are expected to arrive in class with a folder designated for the class assignments, their AR folder, planner, and a writing utensil.

It is your responsibility to get assignments missed due to an absence and they should be returned within two days of your return.

All students are expected to participate in a positive manner in classroom discussions.

People may doubt what you say, but they believe what you do.

“We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit.”  
Aristotle

Today is the day we make choices for tomorrow.

*Parents—please forward to me any gifted topics/issues/concerns on which would like more information. I am interested in setting up a group (either in-person or a online discussion group) to discuss these topics. I also have resources listed under Action Parents on my penningtonweb.net website as well as books to lend from the classroom. These book titles are also listed on my website.*

**GRADING SCALE**

100%-95%	A		79%-77%	C+
94%-90%	A-		76%-74%	C
89%-87%	B+		73%-70%	C-
86%-84%	B		69%-67%	D+
83%-80%	B-		67%-64%	D
			63%-60%	D-



Parents, please sign that you have also viewed my classroom syllabus. You may keep the rest of the syllabus and only return this signature section.

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_