

NORTH BRANFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Essential Curriculum
Language Arts

Grades 6-12

Direct instruction in reading and responding, producing texts, applying conventions of standard English language, and exploring and responding to texts is included in a comprehensive Language Arts program.

By the end of grade 12 students should know and be able to:

- Develop an initial reaction to texts.
- Interpret the text by using prior knowledge and experience.
- Make judgments about meaning and quality of texts.
- Establish purpose and plan appropriate strategies for comprehension.
- Identify and use pertinent data in informational texts.
- Use the structure of texts to interpret and extend meaning.
- Determine the appropriate text structure for audience, purpose, and point of view.
- Gather, select, organize, and analyze information.
- Engage in a process of creating a written, oral, or visual text.
- Communicate effectively in writing.
- Proofread and edit for grammar, spelling, punctuation, and capitalization.
- Speak and write using conventions of language.
- Use variations of language appropriate to purpose, audience and task.
- Develop fluency and competency in English language arts.
- Explore and respond to classic and contemporary texts.
- Evaluate the literary and aesthetic merit of texts.
- Examine personal, social, cultural, and historical influences on texts.
- Recognize the way writers use a variety of techniques to convey meaning.
- Examine the ways texts represent, recreate, shape, and explore human experiences.
- Respond to the voices, cultures, and historical periods in literature.