



SMS Creative Writing Course

Dear Middle School Parents,

SMS is excited to offer middle school students a creative writing program this winter. This creative writing program utilizes story structure to teach writing fundamentals for use in both creative and expository writing. A solid writing foundation is crucial to a student's academic success. The goal is to give students essential writing tools in a dynamic and fun way.

The course will cover the following topics:

1. Building an engaging story

- Link to expository writing – basic writing structure and form

2. Characterization

- Link to expository writing – utilizing details to keep the reader interested

3. Action-driven writing

- Link to expository writing – showing, not telling

4. Dialogue

- Link to expository writing – recognizing the distinction between the spoken word and the written word, and knowing when to use each

5. Setting

- Link to expository writing – setting is equally important in expository writing
 - One college application essay, set at Costco, got a student into Harvard

6. Simile, metaphor and the 5 senses

- Link to expository writing – varying writing style is essential to the best communication

7. The editing check-list

- Link to expository writing – editing is essential to all forms of writing

8. Submission opportunities for middle school students

- Real submission options will be offered to students who would like to submit their work for publication

