



Horner Publications Application

Eighth Grade Elective



Description from the district course catalog:

Prerequisite: Strong writing skills are mandatory.

This class publishes the school yearbook. Planning and organization, copy writing, layout and design, business skill, photography, and computer literacy are included in this process. Artistic talent is welcomed.

WHY JOIN PUBLICATIONS?

- **Publications class does important work!** In Publications, students have the great responsibility and pleasure of producing the school yearbook and newspaper, *The Buzz*.
- **Publications class is hands-on!** We take pictures. We interview students and teachers. We write articles. We use design and photo editing programs on the computer.
- **We are an ASB-recognized club!** We represent the school at various events, support all students as much as possible, and get club T-shirts.

EXPECTATIONS

Publications class is fun, but it is also a **serious responsibility**. It is a business that creates a product people pay for. Every member of our team shares in that responsibility, which means that *everyone* writes articles, *everyone* conducts interviews, *everyone* takes photographs, *everyone* attends at least some of the school events (**this requires time outside of class!**), and *everyone* helps design. If we don't meet deadlines, we let many people down and incur financial penalties. It takes a complete **group effort** to put out the best product, so no one gets to slide by without working, and no late work is accepted. Ever.

QUALITIES OF A GREAT PUBLICATIONS STUDENT

Do you have many or all of these qualities? Apply for Publications!

- **Great communication skills...** not afraid to photograph and interview new people and can work well in groups and pairs
- **Confident writing abilities...** between the newspaper and yearbook, this is a class that requires writing. You don't write every day, but the writing you do is for 1000+ people!
- **Detail-oriented...** when dealing with names and quotations, every letter needs to be verified
- **Honest and responsible...** it is vital to show integrity in reporting
- **Determined and punctual...** attends school events and reports accurately and in a timely manner
- **Interested in reporting, photography, writing, or design...** we get experience with all of these areas! The more you like it, the easier it will be for you

SOUND GREAT? HERE'S HOW YOU APPLY:

1. Fill out the attached form to introduce yourself and show a writing sample. **Drop off in Rm. 26.**
2. Tear off the attached teacher recommendations. Have two teachers, at least one of whom is your English or History teacher, complete and return it directly to Mrs. Snow by the deadline.
3. If you pass the initial screening, we will ask you to come in for an interview.



English teacher: _____

1. What made you interested in Publications?

2. What are your first two preferences for your eighth grade elective?

3. Check which of the following you believe are your strengths.

_____ determined/hard-working

 punctual

_____technologically savvy

_____interested in photography

4. Do you consider yourself a good student? Explain.

5. Are you comfortable using the computer? Explain.

6. Do you work well with others? Explain.

7. What school noontime activities, socials, games, etc. did you attend this year? What did you like?

Writing Sample: Please **handwrite** a sample news article on a school event. You can write about a noon activity, after-school event, class activity, spirit day, assembly, or other school experience.

HEADLINE: _____

ARTICLE:

PUBLICATIONS

Teacher Recommendation

Student applying: _____

Teacher: _____

Student: Write your name. Fill in the due date. Tear off and give this recommendation to your teacher. Ask him/her nicely to please fill it out for you. Do NOT wait until the last minute to ask.

Teacher: Please complete the following and return to Mrs. Snow by _____. Please put it in my box. THANK YOU for your help! ☺

Please rate the above named student from 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent):

_____ DEPENDABILITY: *Do they turn in their work on time? Are they trustworthy?*

_____ RESPECT: *Do they work well with others? Do they show a positive attitude? Are they kind?*

_____ WRITING ABILITY: *Do they have cohesive or creative ideas which they can convey clearly?*

Comments? _____

PUBLICATIONS

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Comments? _____
