

LEADERS NEEDED! DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?

Alton C. Crews Middle School
"Building a Tradition of Excellence"



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- My office phone number is: 770-982-6957
- My e-mail address is: rod_hames@gwinnett.k12.ga.us
- Our web site is: www.Crews.org/curriculum/ex/compsci/
- Early lab - check with me for dates and times.

GRADING POLICY

Keyboarding.....	25%
Handouts	5%
Projects	70%
Total	100%

GRADING SCALE

A	90-100
B.....	80-89
C.....	74-79
D	70-73
U	- 69

LEADERSHIP SKILLS FOUND TO BE IN SHORT SUPPLY

It doesn't take a genius to notice that quality leaders are hard to come by. Students in Mr. Hames' class will use leadership as their theme for the next nine weeks.

Students will begin with keyboarding enrichment. We will review basic technology skills the first week. Students later will create their own newspaper and pull syndicated articles off our school network or write their own articles. Their leadership role in their local community will spark a group of people to nominate them to run for student council president. They will accept this challenge and run a small campaign beginning with a campaign platform flyer. This brochure will be created in

Microsoft Publisher. Their work on the flyer will then be taken to a higher level. They will be required to make a web site from their campaign platform. After creating this eight page web site, they will be out of money and will be required to write a letter requesting for more money. They will write to their party leadership committee. They will create their own letterhead and then learn to address an envelope. Their final task will involve creating a map to their big celebration party for winning the election.

Our next big project will in-

volve the kids running their own programming project team. As the leader of this team, they will be responsible for the training and development of other employees. They will first get their own training in the LOGO programming language. Students will be responsible for creating several games by set deadlines. These games can be created in teams or individually. They will be marketing these games on the Internet to early childhood and middle school students. They will compete with such giants as Hasbro, Mattel, and Lego.



Classroom Management Takes on a New Look by Rod Hames

Students at this age are naturally curious, enthusiastic and energetic. A firm discipline policy therefore will be used to ensure classroom success for all students. Rules that are broken are

tempered with fair and appropriate consequences. At Crews students expectations for behavior are as high as they are for their academics. There are 4 basic rules covering behavior:

1. *Work quietly without disturbing others.*
2. *Listen carefully and follow directions.*
3. *Use time wisely. (not being tardy)*
4. *Respect for others. (Treat others as you would want to be treated)*

Continued...

Expectations...

(Continued)

Students who struggle controlling their behavior in class will be dealt with for both their sake and the class. For example, being tardy to class is on occasion unforeseen and unavoidable. However upon the 3rd (unexcused) tardy a detention will be assigned. After that parents will be notified and one more detention will assigned. For other problems, a citation might be given in class for wrong behavior. With each citation, beginning with a warning, the consequences will escalate. All appropriate measures will be used to help any student who has problems following rules in class.

My Teaching Goals for This Year (2008 – 2009)

- To help improve student communication and listening skills
- To help students learn from each other by strengthening their teamwork abilities.
- To teach students to follow directions and in turn have more hands-on learning experiences
- To always stay positive and enthusiastic in all circumstances
- To help student be a successful and well rounded person here at school
- To explain and clarify difficult or complicated materials appropriate to student levels
- To help develop student's decision-making and problem solving skills
- To promote and develop in students: Responsibility, good self-esteem, sociability, self-management, integrity, and honesty
- To help my students become life-long learners while pursuing their dreams

Technology Acceptable Use Policy

Crews Middle School's technology consists of classroom computer stations, school wide network, advanced technology module, telecommunications including Internet access, e-mail, a satellite system, and video production.

For obvious reasons there is the need for emphasis on the proper and ethical use of this equipment. With these issues in mind we have selected the following guidelines for the use of technology at Crews:

1. Students will use technology with respect to the proper care and

function of the equipment. Any student found to be **intentionally damaging** any hardware or software will be cited for school property abuse.

You will be held responsible for information viewed, received and sent via the Internet.

2. Using **words, ideas, images or data** of another person as the student's own is consid-

ered **plagiarism**.

3. You will not be permitted to bring CD's from home to listen or load programs on the school machines. You are also not allowed to download files from the Internet to the school network.

4. Students' actions will be monitored and they will be held **responsible** for information viewed, received and sent when using the **Internet**. The use of online services should also be restricted to school related projects. You are not allowed to check your email here at school

5. Respect for the *personal data* created by others including students, and teachers will be maintained. Students are not permitted to change, delete or **alter** anyone else's files. **You should not try to alter the computer system of any computer in the building.**

Editorial: My Philosophy of Teaching

I believe teaching can be broken down into 4 basic parts: Educating, Encouraging, Modeling, and Managing. Kids need to know you care. They also need strong leadership today. They need good role models, excellent time managers and teach-

ers who are current in their fields. They don't need fancy teaching approaches or apathetic, sarcastic educators. Both teachers and students face difficulties never before imagined but not insurmountable. Teachers must hold students to high expectations while leading

them along a successful path. I strive to teach, protect, encourage, motivate, but most importantly to love and respect every person who walks into my classroom each and every day.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____