High School Writing 10- 12

Day/Time: Tuesday: 11:00 – 11:50

Tuition: $670/Annual **or $335/Semester, (two separate payments)**

Requirements: LANGAN English Skills with Readings Eighth Edition

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Course Description: The High School Writing course improves basic writing skills in grammar, punctuation, and sentence structure through readings, paragraphs, and short essays. It is preparation for academic writing.

The basic principles of effective writing are presented and woven throughout the course: an introduction to writing, the writing process, patterns of organization, sentence skills, and criteria for revision and editing.

Students focus on the basic elements of good writing: unity, support, coherence, and sentence skills. They learn to incorporate these elements into their compositions by analyzing model paragraphs and essays. They also study patterns of organization such as illustration, process, cause and effect, definition, argument, and classification. Equipped with strong writing skills, students are prepared for success in all academic classes.

Extensive work on the paragraph precedes the essay. According to John Langan, author of the textbook, “Mastery of the paragraph should precede work on the several-paragraph essay.” Mastery does not occur overnight, so we review and reinforce the basics of good paragraph writing before we advance to the essay.

Although concerned with the technical aspect of writing, students learn that writing is not a formula; rather, it is the logical cohesion of facts, ideas, opinion, and imagination in stating a claim or making an argument. To facilitate this process, students share and discuss ideas, read their compositions aloud, and receive constructive feedback from classmates. Collaboration has proven to be highly successful in student learning, and it is a hallmark of this course.