

# Back to School Night

Mrs. Tabitha Eller

## craft

September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Good Evening Parents:

Creative rather than interpretive, art is a universal language whose production is characterized by constant decision making and problem solving. Success in that process brings a sense of autonomy that is empowering and beneficial to all learners. The line between fine art and functional art is increasingly blurred, and Craft students are encouraged to infuse their work with both artistic intention and an artisan's execution. The Craft course encompasses a wide range of materials and techniques grounded in an array of cultural traditions. Creativity, originality, design quality, and craftsmanship are stressed, along with higher order thinking skills such as reflection, analysis, and problem solving.

**Required Materials:** Students need a spiral-bound sketchbook, approximately **9 x 11** inches. I recommend the Strathmore Visual Journal Bristol Board paper or Mixed Media paper. They will use the sketchbook for the Titan's charge, sketchbook assignments, and notes. Additionally, the students are responsible for bringing a pencil to class every day. The craft studio projects will be very individualized per student, so your student may be responsible for bringing in items for their projects. An example for the 'Boxed: Container' project would be a box (cardboard, wood, metal, etc.)

**Optional Materials:** If your student prefers, they are welcome to buy their own set of colored pencils, scissors, and sharpies. I recommend Prismacolor brand for the colored pencils.

**Supports/Resources:** I use my website as a teaching tool. [www.art4tab.com](http://www.art4tab.com) will always have the current studio project, sketchbook assignment, and any other class updates posted.

Also, I use remind, which I will give instruction for sign-up tonight! It is a tool that I use to send reminders and updates to my students and parents about upcoming assignments or materials they need to bring in. I will be offering Open Studio once or twice a week after school for students that need to work extra time on projects or need to use supplies and materials.

**Grading Criteria:**

**Exercises: 20%**

Technique and skill-building exercises, note guides, worksheets, & Titan's charges

**Sketchbooks: 20%**

Sketchbook assignments; work outside of class

**Studio Projects: 60%**

Summative Assessments; major art projects that are a culmination of a unit and portfolios

Digital Portfolios will be created in this class. The students will be taught how to document their work and upload each piece onto a portfolio-based web app.

