Dear Student and Guardian,

In order for students to be 21st century learners, students need to understand how to use technology appropriately both in and out of the classroom.

To facilitate learning in my classroom, I will be utilizing several online on a regular basis (in addition to Engrade). Students will be expected to participate on these sites regularly. For some of the websites, students may need to create an account to participate. The websites used in class will be actively monitored by the teacher. Additionally, parents/guardians are welcome to create their own account on any of the sites used in class.

One of the tools that I will be using is Remind 101. Remind 101 is entirely optional, but it is an additional tool for me to keep you and your student up to date with what is going on in class. Remind 101 allows me to text my class through a website (as opposed to a personal phone). You do not see my number, nor do I see yours. You and your student may also use this tool to send me messages with questions about class. To sign up for this application, please text the message \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to 81010. Additionally, you and your student may follow my teacher twitter for the updates. Follow me at @MsGearhart11.

The main tool that I will be using in facilitating class is my classroom website <http://gearhartclass.weebly.com> . Except in cases where the parent does not want his/her student participating with this tool, all students will be required participate in discussions via the comment section of this website. I will be using this tool for several assignments and for class discussion. Students are required to comment on discussions throughout the semester. This will be factored into a class participation grade.

Students who do not have access to the appropriate technology outside of school will have the opportunity to access the tools before/after school in the library or during class time when appropriate.

Please read through your student’s syllabus so that you are aware of the general expectations that I have for your student this year. Your student also has a student contract that I would like you and your student to sign and return to me. Signing the student contract also indicates your permission for student participation in the online tools that I am providing in class.

If you do not want your student participating with these online tools, please let me know. I will work with you and your student to pursue alternatives to the assignments. Feel free to email me at jgearhart@k12.wv.us or via engrade.

Thank you so much for all that you do as a parent/guardian. I look forward to working with you this year to help your student excel.

Sincerely,

Jenifer M. Gearhart

Hedgesville High School