

# 8TH

# HISTORY AND LANGUAGE ARTS

## JACQUELINE NORRIS

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### DEGREES

M.Ed. in Elementary Education with a Reading Specialist Endorsement from Northern Arizona University

BS in Elementary Education with an Early Childhood Endorsement from Southwest Baptist University

### YEARS IN THE FIELD

14 Years Teaching  
4 Years in Administration

### CERTIFICATIONS

Standard Teaching Certification: Arizona Endorsements:  
Reading  
Early Childhood  
English as a Second Language

Lifetime Certification  
Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI)

## STUDENTS' SERVING OTHERS PROJECTS

Gospel Rescue Mission's Women's and Children's Center  
Amor Trip (build house in Mexico)  
Feed My Starving Children (meal packing)

## 8TH GRADE CORE

Middle school students desire to have their voices heard, to know how things apply to them, and to know that they are loved and valued.

At Casas, students learn through developmentally appropriate strategies and differentiated lessons designed to target what the students need to learn in the way that is best for them. Our standards meet or exceed the state standards.

Students discover how the Lord has worked in history, and connect peoples' concerns in the past with the concerns, events, and issues of today. In eighth grade, the history content focuses on the post-Civil War reconstruction through the present. Students complete a variety of enriching activities to strengthen their creativity and grow as life-long learners.

In language arts, care is taken to help develop each students' love for reading. Some of the novels studies correlate with the history units to enrich the students' understanding of the period. Other novel studies are chosen based upon literary excellence to strengthen students' skills as readers, writers, and critical thinkers.

Regardless of the genre, every novel study challenges the students to consider things through a biblical worldview and to communicate with excellence (whether giving a presentation, writing in different domains, or collaborating with others). Most grammar instruction is given in the context of the student's own writing. Students are taught and challenged in all of the Six-Traits and practice writing different styles of poetry.

### CURRICULUM

*United States History: Civil War to the Present*  
by Holt McDougal

### EXAMPLES OF NOVEL STUDIES

(Due to differentiation, the list will vary by student.)  
*Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry, To Be a Slave, To Kill a Mockingbird, Out of the Dust, The Hiding Place, Friedrich, Esperanza Rising,* biographies, Shakespeare