

Name _____

Application for Journalism

Dear 7th Grade Students,

This document is the application for all of you interested in taking the journalism/yearbook class next year. The main project in our class is to make our middle school's yearbook. Students write, take the pictures, and design every page in the book. Therefore, we are looking for students who enjoy writing, taking pictures, and have an artistic eye for graphic design.

Application is a two step process:

- 1) Print out this form and fill it out.
- 2) Bring your filled-out form and come to my classroom to do a writing sample. The writing sample will take about an hour. You can come on the following days:
 - a. May 1st, May 2nd, or May 3rd
 - b. My classroom is Portable 3.
 - c. All tryout times are at 3:15pm. Please be on time.

If you can't make any of the above times, please let me know ASAP so I can schedule a make-up appointment, preferably earlier than the above times.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at cbrude@nmusd.us

Hope to see you soon!

Chris Brude
Language Arts & Journalism Teacher

Answer the following questions to the best of your ability.
Be honest and thorough.

Question 1

Tell me a little bit about yourself as a student. What subjects do you like? Also, tell me a bit about yourself outside of school. What do you enjoy spending your time doing outside of school?

Question 2

What do you think are your strengths and weaknesses as a student?

Question 3

In the journalism class, there are three main areas of focus: writing, photography, and graphic design (this means designing the pages for the book, much like a designer for the pages of a magazine). Which of these interests you the most? Why?

Question 4

What experience do you have with any of the three areas of focus listed above?

Question 5

What do you think are the qualities of a good yearbook?

Question 6

What do you think are the qualities of a poor yearbook? How do you think these things can be avoided?

Question 7

Every yearbook has a theme. Some may be about a current event. Last year's theme was 'Leave Your Mark,' which was about both making memories in middle school as well as making sure you were remembered. A few years ago, our theme was 'Beneath the Surface,' which we chose to show that there is a lot more to the students of CdM than what was found on shows like 'The OC.' List any ideas you have for a theme for next year's book and why you think it/they would be a good theme.