



**Journalism/ Mass Media**  
**Mrs. Alessandrini**  
**2009-10**

**Course Overview:** Throughout modern history, people have depended on the mass media to spread the word about events and people of interest to the general public. Journalism introduces students to the exciting world of print media. Law, ethics and the history of journalism will complement the major units of study: reporting, writing, editing, photography, management, teamwork, advertising and design. This course is designed to enable students to learn the art of and craft of reporting, writing, and presenting the news. Students will focus on the philosophy of strong ethical journalism, the roles for a publication, organizational and teamwork skills, and finally, the structural as well as business aspects of a school news publication.

**Major Course Goals:**

- Understand and appreciate the fundamentals of journalism and how these fundamentals apply to a school publication.
- Practice the philosophy of ethical high school journalism within the legal boundaries of a private school setting.
- Uphold and respect the values of creating a goal oriented work setting.
- Utilize one's creativity in the layout and design process.
- Meet deadlines on time in order to ensure productivity
- Understand and appreciate the importance of photojournalism

**Required Materials**

- Lots of notebook paper
- Pens/pencils
- Access to a television and/or newspapers for current event and editing assignments

### **Course Requirements**

- All students must perform a quarter of each Task Force
  - o On-line edition
  - o Print edition
  - o Broadcasts
  - o Blog/Podcasts
- All material must be handed in at the appropriate time
- Attendance to outside events is crucial (games, dances, lectures, plays, etc.)

### **Grades**

- Grades are based upon the effort and quality of their completed work
- Tests and quizzes are used as a secondary form of assessment
- Letter grades are based upon achieving the specified goal set for each grading period.
- **Late work will be accepted with 10 points (daily) and 15 points (Major) deducted daily.**

**\*\*\*\* Students will be using websites and Internet Daily\*\*\*\* They should, at all times, conduct themselves appropriately.**

**I look forward to an exciting and fulfilling year. We are tackling many new things so we have a lot of hard work ahead of us, but together it can be accomplished.**