**American Sign Language**

**Syllabus**

**Cynthia Konow-Brownell, MA**

August 2024- June 2025

Class meets Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:00-2:45pm

**Class Description:**

1.To begin and continue to build ASL signing vocabulary with a focus on sign production, fluency, and understanding through group and teacher interactions in the classroom.

 2. Understanding grammar structures such as non-manual markers, verb inflection, and use of space

3.Understanding ASL and using it in various modes such as story telling, directing another peer in an activity, and story comprehension

4.Topics will include common vocabulary such as describing people, activities, numeration, time/calendar concepts, grammatical differences between ASL and English, and applications within conversation.

 5.To develop an understanding and appreciation of Deaf Culture and Deaf History

**Classroom Communication Policy:**

 There will be periods when we will not use any voicing. As students are learning vocabulary, they will become more confident in their communication abilities. ASL relies on facial expression, movement, and spatial referencing for meaning. Students will learn to “listen” with their eyes. Our learning environment will be flexible, supportive, and cooperative.

**Grading:**

1. Students will be evaluated on their level of participation as well as producing signed messages and understanding messages signed to them. A 4 point rubric will be used to quantify skill attainment.
2. Students will express their understanding of Deaf Culture, ASL norms, and vocabulary through a portfolio style assessment of video clips of their own journey learning this language.
3. Students will participate in a comprehensive experience of retelling a fairy tale or another common story told to children. If the THS student is in agreement, these stories will be shared with primary grade Deaf students.

**Instructor’s Contact**

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