 

I am excited to welcome your student to Hartland High School and Spanish I Honors! This course is an important step in fulfilling your student’s language requirement for the Michigan Merit Curriculum. It is important to remember that high school credit will be given to students that receive a passing grade in each semester. As a requirement, it should be treated with the same importance as Math, English, Science, and Social Studies. During the course of the year, we will be discovering and learning about the different cultures of the Spanish speaking world. Along with this, we will be exploring the Spanish language. In Spanish I Honors, the student begins a possible four-year sequence in which basic expressions, vocabulary, and grammar are introduced. The honors level student is expected to have excellent study and communication skills and be able to independently complete their assignments. Communication among students is an integral part of each lesson.  Material is presented in a cultural context, enabling the student to understand differences and similarities among societies.  Material will be presented at a faster pace, and higher level thinking skills will be expected.  More complex ideas and topics will be explored.  Students who successfully complete Spanish I Honors will be prepared to enroll in Spanish II Honors. I look forward to embarking on this journey with your student and working, learning, and communicating together.

**I have five expectations for students in my classroom:**

1. **Ask for help when you need it**- If you do not understand something, raise your hand and ask me. We are here to learn together and I will not know if you don’t understand unless you tell me.
2. **Be seated on time and prepared for class**- To be considered prepared for class, you must have your Spanish folder, Spanish binder, pen or pencil, and a positive attitude. You must come to class on time every day. I also expect you to be mentally present by participating in class activities, speaking during activities and discussions, and asking and answering meaningful questions that contribute to class discussion.
3. **Listen to the person speaking and follow directions**- I have the right to teach you and you have the right to learn. When I am speaking, you must be listening. Again, if you have a question, raise your hand. When a classmate is presenting, you must also listen to him/her. This is simply common courtesy. Follow adult directions the first time given.
4. **Maintain a safe school environment at ALL times**- Respect yourself, others, and their property. Keep hands, feet, objects, and unkind words to yourself. Chair legs should be on the floor and use equipment and materials properly.
5. **Use quiet voice and wait your turn**- Spanish can be a lot of fun, but this is a school, NOT a playground. I expect you to raise your hand when you have a question or answer; there is no need to shout anything aloud.

Along with these expectations, I enforce every rule in the Hartland Public Schools student/parent handbook. I expect students to follow what Eagles believe in and our mission to respect and achieve**!**

 HARTLAND EAGLES BELIEVE IN THE 3 R’s:

* + - **R**eason
		- **R**espect
		- **R**esponsibility



**Grading**

Grades are cumulated throughout the entire semester and are a composition of the two categories listed below***.***  **Summative assessments** show proficiency and learning that the student has achieved during or after studying a unit. **Formative assessments** are composed of the on-going learning and practice a student does during a unit.

**Summative Assessments – 80 % of the total grade**

* **Quizzes and tests** -will be announced with plenty of time to prepare. Each unit will have at least one or two quizzes on vocabulary or grammar points. Tests will be given upon completion of a unit of study. The formats will vary. Please be aware that if you are present the day that a test or quiz is announced, you are expected to take it **on that scheduled day**, even if you are not in the class the day before. (i.e. On Friday, a test is announced for the following **Friday**. You must take the test Friday even if you are not in class on the **Thursday** before). All tests and quizzes must be taken within **one week** of the date they were originally given or a **ZERO** will be entered into the gradebook.
* **Graded homework**
* **Writing assignments**
* **Projects**
* **Mid- term and Final Exams**

**Formative Assessments = 20% of the total grade**

* **Homework**- Students will be given homework assignments to reinforce class instruction. Full credit will be awarded for assignments that are **correct**, **complete**, **labeled**, **on time**, and **a product of the student’s effort**.
* **Short writing assignments and projects**
* **Participation (verbal /in class)**

**Grading Scale**

A   = 4.0        C+ = 2.3                D-  = 0.7

A-  = 3.7                     C   = 2.0                E   = 0.3

B+ = 3.3                     C-  = 1.7      N = 0.0 No attempt

B   = 3.0                     D+ = 1.3

B- = 2.7                      D   = 1.0

* You will be able to view your student’s grades using Parent Connect (See the high school website for additional information). I will work to have grades updated by Friday of each week. If you do not have Internet access, please let me know so I may send a hard copy home. I will also telephone if there is a serious change in your student’s grade or behavior. I may also telephone for positive behavior!
* Late work will be accepted up to ONE DAY after the due date for a 50% deduction. **No late work will be accepted after one day.**
* **Make Up Work**

Students will have one (1) day to make up work for each day absent.  It is your responsibility to find out what work was missed from classmates BEFORE asking the instructor.  Please remember to: Ask 3 before me! Any handouts or notes you missed will be in the BLUE absent slot filed by the corresponding date.  Please check my website for Homework and other assignment postings during your absence. Tests and quizzes need to be made up before or after school.

**Highlights of the course (including, but not limited to these)**

* Food days- Students will celebrate the tastes of the Spanish culture at least twice during the year. I will need students to volunteer food items or money for this endeavor, but it is STRICTLY VOLUNTARY and will have NO EFFECT on a student’s grade.

**What can you do to help your child succeed?**

* Encourage your student to practice vocabulary at least 5 minutes daily.
* Encourage your student to keep trying even though it can be frustrating at times.
* Be there to help them practice.
* Discuss with your student his/her family’s ethnic origins and any traditions that reflect that heritage.
* Check out updates on my website (rachelbulszewicz.weebly.com) and the helpful practice links on there, such as:

 [www.conjuguemos.com](http://www.conjuguemos.com)

[www.quizlet.com](http://www.quizlet.com) (Put ‘rodrigur3’ in the search box).

* Have your student come to my Tutoring Thursdays from 2:30pm-3:30pm
* Have your student sign up for **REMIND** to receive text messages for reminders on homework and tests/quizzes! (Your student will receive a sheet with step by step directions on how to sign up if he/she wants to) (**No numbers are exchanged** and a student without a cell phone can sign up through email). **They receive the message, but cannot reply back; it is strictly a reminder message!**

**FOR ORGANIZATIONAL PURPOSES, I HIGHLY RECOMMEND A BINDER FOR THIS COURSE.**

Please feel free to contact me with any concerns or questions you may have at any time throughout the semester.

Muchas Gracias,

Mrs. Rachel Bulszewicz (Señora Bulszewicz, Mrs. B, Señora B)

rachelbulszewicz@hartlandschools.us

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(Please cut here and return with your student by Friday)

Student name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Hour\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent / Guardian Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Best Phone # to reach you\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent email\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_