**Digital Media Design & Product**

**Cat Tracks Newspaper**

**Syllabus**

Instructor: Mr. Abasolo

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Digital Media Design & Product / Cat Tracks Newspaper is an elective course for students who show skill in writing, design and/or photography and who have successfully completed 21st Century Journalism. This program of study includes staff organization, advertising, business management, journalistic writing, editing, page make-up and design, photography, desktop publishing, computer skills, and the publication process.

Digital Media Design & Product / Cat Tracks Newspaper is a production class, and the emphasis after the initial instruction and first issue will be on refining skills as the student learns to collaborate within an organization, and yet, work independently to meet deadlines as a part of the staff to produce subsequent issues of the school newspaper. This class is NOT like any other standard core course offered at Mulvane High School. The fact that our work is published and made possible from soliciting funds in the form of advertising, and other means, justifies a higher expectation of commitment to the class. Students will be required to devote time to the journalistic and business processes before, during, and after school.

Advertising will play a vital and necessary role of newspaper production. Instruction in selling techniques and using the ad kit will be given during the first week of school.

In preparing each issue of the newspaper, students will gain practical experience in the journalistic process, writing skills and be introduced to skills required in editing and page layout and design.

Group or individual instruction will continue throughout the year as needed to improve journalistic skills needed to produce a quality publication.

Student assignments, beats, positions, and leadership roles will be defined in class through group meetings and one on one discussions with Mr. Abasolo.

**Coverage Requirements:**

There are over 300 events each year at Mulvane High School. As a journalist, it is your job to cover them and our job as a team to figure out the logistics of how. The year will be divided up into three sections, fall, winter, and spring. There are over 85 events this fall alone, 41 of those events are here in Mulvane. Based on the number students enrolled in the class, events will be divided up accordingly.

**Points: Grading Scale:**

100% - 90% = A

Participation = 40%: event coverage 89% - 80% = B

Project/Articles/Issues = 60% 79% - 70% = C

69% - 60% = D

59% BELOW = F

Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_