Students will:

- Develop the expertise to create and publish a Westside High School Howlernews.com site and magazine.
- Become proficient in the use of the SNO site's design and publishing program.

General skill and expertise:

- Becoming critical viewers, consumers, and producers of copywriting, copy editing, and photography in the context of storytelling.
- Understanding ethics and responsibility to cover subjects of interest and importance to the student body of Westside.
- Understanding how newspapers are produced. Beginning with concepts and planning, advancing meaning storytelling, photojournalism, expressive copy, design, and most importantly, meeting deadlines.
- Using with expertise the tools in reporting and storytelling including news, feature, and editorial writing.
- Students will have multiple opportunities to write, photograph, and publish stories relating to and are relevant for the Westside community.

Participation:

- Active participation in mandatory to success in this class. Students are expected to be engaged and attentive.
  - Participation is measured by attendance, punctuality, preparation, contributions, and cooperation.
  - Meeting deadlines is paramount. Students who miss deadlines will be graded accordingly, and may be removed from the class altogether.
- Students are expected to contribute:
  - Two major stories (400+ words) per 6 weeks.
  - 3 – 4 minor stories (200 words) per 6 weeks.
  - Photography, interview, and resources are anticipated for every piece.
  - Stories are to be researched, attributed, outlines, drafted and published.
- Evaluations
  - Major grades (70%) – major stories, group projects
  - Minor grade (30%) – participation, drafts, exit tickets and quizzes

HONORS CREDIT: Students enrolled in newspaper for honors credit will be expected to enhance their participation with additional projects, multimedia stories and design. Including video production, magazine publication and yearbook pages.
Time:
- Many opportunities will be present in class to write, edit, brainstorm and design.
- Time outside of class will be necessary.

Content:
- Stories about Westside and events associated with Westside will be carry a bulk of information.
- A variety of coverage will also be part of the fabric of the staff’s work.
- Stories will be relevant, timely, thought provoking, and exceeding expectation.
- Brainstorming is crucial. Sharing ideas, expected. Doing the extra, required.
- Multimedia posts will be encouraged.

All staff members are expected to increase the readership of the Howlernews.com

Staff members are expected to promote the work through their own social media followers, as well as, through the Howlernews.com site and twitter.

Technology

Students are expected to be responsible for school owned equipment. This includes cameras, lenses, SD cards, USB card readers, camera equipment, computers and computer software. Each student, and the guardian will sign a release agreement for the use of Westside owned equipment.

Media passes are issued as a privilege and students should only use them to gain access to event that they are assigned to cover as a Howler News staff member. Media passes are also used for staff members during the school day. They are not restroom passes.

Responsible use of social media is paramount for all staff members. Howler News monitors a twitter account a @WHSHowlernews

On occasion stories will generate comments. Mostly those comments are engaging and beneficial to the story. Other times comments are inappropriate, and will be deleted. Keeping this information within the staff will always be the practice.

All online communication in relation to Howler News will meet all guidelines of the Westside Code of Student conduct. Full stop. Howler News website and twitter are not your personal domains. Responsibility is the standard.