Student-Friendly Language Arts Standards for Grade Eight

Based upon the 2009 Nebraska State Language Arts Standards
**READING**
I can understand what I read by applying the skills and strategies I have learned.

**Fluency**
I can fluently read a variety of grade level texts.
I can use voice and tone to communicate the meaning of the text I am reading.
I can adjust the pace of both oral and silent reading.
I can use expression that matches the tone and style of the text.

**Vocabulary**
I can build and use vocabulary from all subjects.
I can apply what I know about the structure of words to understand the vocabulary I use in all subjects.
I can connect new vocabulary to what I already know and use those words in other situations.
I can select and use context clue strategies to figure out the meaning of unknown words.
I can analyze how words are related.
I can use print and digital resources to determine what words mean.

**Comprehension**
I can understand what I read.
I can analyze text using author’s purpose, perspective, and additional sources.
I can identify and analyze the elements of a narrative text.
I can analyze the author’s use of literary devices.
I can use the main idea and supporting details to analyze, summarize, and construct new ideas from informational text.
I can apply what I know about how informational text is organized to help me understand what it means.
I can analyze and evaluate information from text features.
I can apply what I know about narrative and informational genres to analyze and make inferences.
I can analyze how text is influenced by society, history, culture, and people.
I can use what I read to understand the world around me.
I can ask and answer different types of questions while analyzing and synthesizing information and prior knowledge to support my answers.
I can choose a text for a particular task or purpose.
I can use prior knowledge to clarify text, deepen understanding, and make connections while reading.
I can self-monitor my comprehension and can use strategies to clarify, confirm, or correct what I am reading.
I can take information from several sources to make meaningful inferences or predictions.
I can respond to what I read in different ways.

**WRITING**
I can write to communicate with others.

**Writing Process**
I can use the writing process to publish my writing.
I can use prewriting strategies to help me come up with ideas and organize information, guide writing, answer questions, and synthesize information.
I can create a draft of my writing.
I can revise my writing to improve it.
I can share my ideas with other writers to help them improve their writing and use their ideas to make my own writing better.
I can edit my writing for format and conventions.
I can publish a legible and well-formatted piece of writing that is easy to understand.

**Writing Genres**
I can write for different purposes and audiences in multiple genres.
I can write in multiple genres for a variety of purposes and audiences.
I can write in a specific genre.
I can choose how to organize my writing based on my purpose.
I can analyze model papers to help me create my own.

**Speaking and Listening**
I can communicate with others by listening and speaking.

**Speaking**
I can communicate ideas with my words.
I can communicate information and ideas clearly for different purposes and audiences.
I can adjust my speaking skills for a variety of purposes or situations.
I can use available media to enhance communication.

**Listening**
I can develop, apply, and refine active listening skills in a variety of situations.
I can listen to others in different situations.
I can listen and ask questions about the speakers content, delivery, and purpose.
I can listen critically to evaluate the purpose and point of view of what I hear.

**Reciprocal Communication**
I can have respectful conversations with others.
I can choose my words appropriately, keeping my audience in mind.
I can collaborate with others in a learning situation by communicating my ideas and opinions in different ways.
I can respect the different views of others while working in a group.

**Multiple Literacies (Electronic Communication)**
I can identify, locate, and evaluate information
I can find and use information in a variety of media and formats.
I can select and use resources to ask and answer questions, and decide if the resources are accurate.
I can cite my sources to give credit to the authors.
I can practice safe behaviors when I am communicating on the computer.
I can use technology to communicate with learners from a variety of cultures.
I can evaluate messages that hidden meanings by analyzing product placement, television ads, radio ads, movies, body images, and sexism.
I can gather and share information and opinions using technology.
I can gather and share information online using social networks and online tools.