**¡Bienvenidos a la clase de español!**

Ragsdale High school **Class:** Spanish

1000 Lucy Ragsdale Drive **Teacher:** Susan Tawney

Jamestown, NC  27282 **office hours:** by appointment

**room number:** B-104

**e-mail:** tawneys@gcsnc.com

**phone:** 336.454.7400 (school)

**Google voice:** 336.484.1814

Dear Parents and Student,

I’m excited that you have chosen to study Spanish! Learning a second language is important as most universities require at least 2 years of a foreign language for admission.

You will find that being able to converse in Spanish will be an asset to you. Future employers will be excited that you are able to communicate with Spanish-speakers. Did you know that Spanish is spoken as a first or second language by over 450 million people? This makes Spanish the second most widely spoken language in the world! (Chinese is the first).\*

The key to being able to *communicate* in Spanish is practice, practice, practice! We are going to focus on the four basic skills: listening (understanding), reading, writing and speaking. Spanish 1 has a lot of new vocabulary, and you will need to study new words daily to be successful.

After you have read through this letter and the accompanying syllabus, please fill out the attached form and return it to me.

I would like to thank parents in advance for your support. Please call me if you have any questions or concerns about your student’s progress. After school hours, I can be reached up until 9:00pm on the Google voice number listed above.

Sinceramente,

Susan Tawney

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| **Who am I?**  My love of languages came at an early age. My father was in the military and we travelled and lived abroad as I was growing up. My parents are Danish, and we were lucky to be stationed in Denmark for many years while my father was attached to the embassy there. Being able to speak both English and Danish allowed me the best of both worlds. In high school, I began my third language: Spanish.  I began my teaching career in 1989 in Washington state. I attended Pacific Lutheran University and the University of Guadalajara in Mexico. My husband and I moved to Arizona in 1991 where I taught Spanish, English and ESL. In 2005, my family and I were relocated to Greensboro. I spent 8 years at Northeast HS, where I taught all levels of Spanish including  AP Spanish Language and AP Spanish Literature before coming to Ragsdale in 2013.  I am looking forward working with you this year! |