May 2019

Dear Pre-AP/AP Parents,

Grand Prairie ISD is pleased that your child has selected a Pre-AP/AP English Language Arts course for the 2019-2020 academic year. As you know, these classes are quite rigorous. Students are more likely to experience success on the AP exam if they have deeply studied a wide variety of texts. For this reason, GPISD has elected to require summer reading in grades 6-12 for our Pre-AP and AP courses. We encourage you to read and discuss the selections along with your child.

We recommend students purchase the texts so they can take notes in the book, which will be beneficial upon returning to class. In addition to traditional bookstores, inexpensive copies can be found at sites such as hpb.com, alibris.com, barnesandnoble.com, and amazon.com.

Book lists and assignment instructions for each course can be found on the GPISD website at www.gpisd.org/apsummerreading.

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**Pre-AP English Language Arts**

All students enrolling in Pre-AP courses (grades 6, 7, 8, English I and English II) will choose and read two texts from approved course lists. Students will choose one book from the Fiction list and one book from the Nonfiction list to meet the two-book summer reading requirement.

Students will be required to complete an assignment over both texts, one during the summer and one during the first nine weeks of school. Review the specific course assignment descriptions for details and due dates on our website.

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**AP English**

**AP English Language and Composition:**

Students enrolling in an AP English Language and Composition course must read two texts. They can choose between Thank you for Arguing by Jay Heinrichs (the first 13 chapters only) or On Writing Well: The Classic Guide to Writing Nonfiction (Chapters 1-19 and Chapter 23: A Writer’s Decisions) by William Zinsser, AND then choose one literary nonfiction text from the approved course list.

Students will be required to complete an assignment over both texts, one during the summer over the required reading and one during the first nine weeks of school with the choice reading. Review the specific course assignment descriptions for details and due dates on our website.

**AP English Literature and Composition:**

Students enrolling in AP Literature must read the required text, How to Read a Poem: Based on the Billy Collins Poem “Introduction to Poetry” by Tania Runyon, and choose one fiction text from the approved course list.

Students will be required to complete an assignment over both texts, one during the summer over the choice reading and one during the first nine weeks of school with the required reading. Review the specific course assignment descriptions for details and due dates on our website.

If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your campus Dean of Instruction, Advanced Academics Specialist, or ELA Department Chairperson.

Kind regards,

Grand Prairie ISD AP Vertical Alignment Team & Kasie Roden, Secondary ELA Facilitator