

June 2009

Re: Kinnelon High School English **Resource Center** Summer Reading Requirement

Dear Parent/Guardian:

A summer reading program is a tradition at Kinnelon High School. The purpose is threefold:

- To maintain the continuity of the educational program started during the school year
- To engage students with literature which supplements the school based English program
- To encourage independent student critical thinking and learning

A wide body of research confirms that students who read perform far better academically than those who do not. A partnership between home and school is essential to encouraging reading with students, particularly over the summer months when they become somewhat disconnected from academic pursuits due to competing interests and a lack of a daily routine.

Students with a learning disability are far more susceptible to losing ground over the summer with regard to their reading comprehension skills.

The summer reading requirement this year is for the completion of two books, one chosen from the list below and the second chosen with parental supervision. Upon your student's return to school, he or she must complete and submit the enclosed assessment forms. It is strongly advised that students begin their reading immediately and pace themselves throughout the summer, this to avoid the difficult process of cramming with two books just prior to beginning of school.

Each grade must choose one novel from the list below and must read a book of their choice, completing the attached assessment forms:

English I (Incoming Freshman)

Choose one book from the list below and one of your own choosing (with parental consent) and complete the summer Reading Assessment Form.

The Hobbit, J. R. Tolkien

Treasure Island, Robert Louis Stevenson

The Last of the Mohicans, James Fennimore Cooper

Children of the River, Linda Crew

Among Friends, Caroline Cooney

English 2

Choose one book from the list below and one of your own choosing (with parental consent) and complete the summer Reading Assessment Form.

A Farewell to Arms, Ernest Hemingway
The Scarlet Letter, Nathaniel Hawthorne
The Natural, Bernard Malamud
A Prayer for Owen Meany, John Irving
The Things They Carried, Tim O'Brien
Alive, Piers Paul Read
Anansi Boys, Neil Gaiman

English 3

Read the book below and one of your own choosing (with parental consent) and complete the summer Reading Assessment Form.

Required reading is Gilgamesh

English 4

Read the book below and one of your own choosing (with parental consent) and complete the summer Reading Assessment Form.

Morality Play, Barry Unsworth