May 2019

Dear Parents:

In Katy ISD, students are encouraged to read for pleasure over the summer. Summer reading provides many advantages for students, including maintaining skills, fostering independent learning, and promoting a lifelong love of reading.

Additionally, students who enroll in PreAP or AP English courses in grades 6-12 are expected to read an appropriately challenging work of literary merit over the summer to create an initial common framework for course discussion and study.

PreAP and AP English courses offered in grades 6 – 12 are designed to develop reading, writing, and thinking skills necessary for success in these courses and the Advanced Placement examinations available upon completion of AP English courses. Students who are successful on Advanced Placement exams may be awarded credit for college English courses recognized by most colleges and universities.

Your child has requested Language Arts 8 PreAP or Language Arts 8 PreAP/GT for the upcoming school year. For the summer of 2019, students will carefully read one of the following titles:

**Language Arts 8 PreAP or Language Arts 8 PreAP/GT Summer Reading:**

*Chains* by Laurie Halse Anderson  
*Okay For Now* by Gary Schmidt

The guiding question below provides the student with a focus for his/her reading. After classroom instruction, this guiding question and the summer reading text will provide the basis for discussion and writing in the fall semester.

**Guiding Question:**

- How do the main character’s qualities influence the development of the plot?
- What themes are emerging throughout the text?

Students are encouraged to read additional books of their choice throughout the summer for enjoyment and to maintain literacy skills. Students will be expected to read widely from a variety of texts throughout the school year.

Encourage your child to complete this reading by the start of school in August. All students must complete the reading no later than Monday, August 19, 2019.

A copy of this letter can be found online at: [http://bit.ly/1E4kPM6](http://bit.ly/1E4kPM6) under the PreAP/AP & PreAP/AP GT Summer Reading link. A parent who has a concern with the text options may contact Amanda Palmer at amandakpalmer@katyisd.org or 281.237.7059 or Nina Anderson at carolineeanderson@katyisd.org or 281.396.2121.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,

Amanda Palmer  
Secondary ELA Curriculum Coordinator

Nina Anderson  
Secondary ELA Curriculum Coordinator

Alene Lindley  
Director of Secondary Curriculum & Instruction, Gifted/Talented & Advanced Academic Studies

Nancy Hess  
Instructional Specialist for Gifted/Talented & Advanced Academic Studies
Please sign and return to your student’s current Language Arts teacher.

_____ My child and I have received notice of summer reading for Language Arts 8 PreAP or Language Arts 8 PreAP/GT.

In the fall of 2019, my child will attend: (check one)

_____ Adams Junior High
_____ Beckendorff Junior High
_____ Beck Junior High
_____ Cardiff Junior High
_____ Cinco Ranch Junior High
_____ Katy Junior High
_____ Mayde Creek Junior High
_____ McDonal Junior High

_____ McMeans Junior High
_____ Memorial Parkway Junior High
_____ Morton Ranch Junior High
_____ Tays Junior High
_____ Seven Lakes Junior High
_____ Stockdick Junior High
_____ West Memorial Junior High
_____ Wood Creek Junior High

Parent Printed Name________________________________________________

Parent Signature __________________________________________________

Student Printed Name_______________________________________________

Student Signature _________________________________________________

Date_____________________________________________________________