

June 1, 2019

Dear Students and Parents:

I would like to welcome you to 7th grade gifted language arts. I look forward to working with you this coming school year. In preparation for the new school year, it is important for students to continue to read over the summer. The novels selected for summer reading will introduce students to our yearlong theme in language arts. Students should try to connect the themes between the two novels they read and be ready to discuss their thoughts when they return to school. Students must read the **ONE** required novel plus any **ONE** of the following novels that they have **not** previously read:

REQUIRED SUMMER READING	SUMMER READING CHOICES
<i>The Giver</i> by Lois Lowry	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● <i>Gathering Blue</i> by Lois Lowry● <i>Truesight</i> by David Stahler Jr.● Any ONE of <i>The Hunger Games</i> series by Suzanne Collins● <i>The City of Ember</i> by Jeanne Duprau● <i>First Light</i> by Rebecca Stead

Next year, in addition to having already read *The Giver*, we will be reading three other novels. Since these titles are quite complex, I would like students to be able to read at home throughout the school year, annotating and highlighting as they read, so that we can revisit the text in class the next day. This will increase comprehension thus enabling us to analyze and interpret the text. With this in mind, I would like to ask that, preferably, you purchase a personal copy of each of the three titles. You may wish to buy them over the summer or wait and buy each one as we read it. I will only have a class set of each novel, and these cannot be written in. Details of these titles, in order that they will be read, are as follows:

IN-CLASS NOVELS

- *Animal Farm* by George Orwell ISBN: 0451526341
- *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding ISBN: 0399501487
- *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by William Shakespeare (No Fear Shakespeare) ISBN: 1586638483

All three novels have free, full-text, online versions; however, unless students print these, they will not be able to practice their annotating and highlighting skills, and this will be a grade. E-Readers are acceptable provided they have annotating capabilities, but these are the responsibility of the student. Another alternative to purchasing is borrowing the titles from the local library or from a friend. Annotating can be done using sticky notes.

In addition to reading, students should also consider keeping up with practicing the Greek and Latin stems.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. Happy reading!

Sincerely,

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