

Hello AP Language & Composition Students!

Welcome to what will be an exciting and challenging chapter of discovering the power of language. We are excited to embark on this journey with you this fall and learn together. As part of the AP Language and Composition experience, you will want to take some time this summer to read the following selection to prepare for the first day of class in August. Plan on bringing the book with you on August 11th, read and marked as indicated. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Sadler (sadlerm@pcsb.org) or Mrs. Thompson-Vo (thompsonvos@pcsb.org).

Failing Up by Leslie Odom, Jr.

Read the book in its entirety.

In each of the chapters, look for the answers to these questions and highlight them, followed by a *short annotation of explanation or label in the margin of the text:

- In this section, what is evident about the speaker/author?
- In this section, how does the reader know the message of the author?
- In this section, what words or phrases tell the reader about what the author's understanding of his audience is? Not who the audience is, but the author's understanding of their needs, values or beliefs?
- In this section, how does the reader know the currency (how current the topic is) by what the author writes?
- In this section, where is an indication of the importance of the topic and what inspired the author to write about this in the first place?

The sections of the novel are:

- Take me to the World
- The Mentor
- The Big Break
- What You Own
- Hollywood or the Token
- Permission to Fail
- The Turnaround
- *Hamilton* Act 1: Our Town
- *Hamilton* Act 2: The New American Dream
- Permission to Prosper
- Seriously

*short annotation = 3-5 words at a maximum