

SENIOR SUMMER LETTER

Dear Seniors,

This year we will be studying **American Literature**. The Curriculum Committee has chosen an ambitious reading list that includes many of the greatest novels, poems, plays and short stories that our American literary tradition has to offer. I am confident that this introduction to the classics will deepen your appreciation of literature and the beauty of our language, and will help you to become better writers.

English Summer Reading

To get a jump on the year, the Curriculum Committee has assigned the novel *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich* by Alexander Solzhenitsyn (ISBN 0451228146).

History Summer Reading

For your history class next year, the Curriculum Committee has assigned two books for summer reading. The first is *Animal Farm* by George Orwell (ISBN 0451526341). This book should be available at any major book store or used online. The second is *George Washington, The Founding Father* by Paul Johnson (ISBN 0060753676).

All of these books can be found new or used online and in book stores and students are not required to get any particular edition of these books. Students should be prepared to discuss both of these books when school begins in September.

Books for the Year

High school students are required to purchase the works we will be reading for English class. This is done largely so that students may highlight, underline, and make comments in their books. They can all be found at <http://www.amazon.com>. Used books can take longer to ship to your house, so don't wait until a week before school starts to order!

Students are required to use the particular edition listed below for the books we will read in class. Students may not use abridged editions of any of these books.

*The Legend of Sleepy Hollow
And Other Tales*

Dover Thrift Edition
ISBN 0486466582

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn
by Twain

Penguin Classics
ISBN 0142437174

The Gold-Bug and Other Tales by Poe

Dover Thrift Edition
ISBN 0486268756

Continued on Back

Death Comes for the Archbishop by Cather

Vintage Classics Series

ISBN 0679728899

The Glass Menagerie by Miller

New Directions Books

ISBN 0811214044

The Great Gatsby by Fitzgerald

Scribner

ISBN 0743273567

Of Mice and Men by Steinbeck

Penguin Classics

ISBN 0140186425

Great American Short Stories

Dover Thrift Edition

ISBN 0486421198

I look forward to seeing familiar faces again in the fall. Enjoy your summer and be sure to read!

Mr. Halpin
High School Dean