

**A.P.A. Summer Reading Program  
2009**

**English III \* A.P. English Language \* A.P. English Literature**

**This year, the Academy has re-designed the high school Summer Reading Program. Our objective is first of all *to foster students' enjoyment of reading*, and secondly to help them strengthen their reading strategies and skills. We believe that summer is a wonderful time to rest and relax from academic endeavors. We also believe that reading is an important source of relaxation that everyone should access.**

For rising 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders, the Summer Reading Program has **three** components. First, each course will have one required reading selection listed below:

English III – *Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell

A. P. Language – *The Tipping Point* by Malcolm Gladwell

English IV- *The Road* by Cormac McCarthy

A.P. Literature – *The Plot Against America* by Philip Roth

These works are available through public libraries, or you can order the required book from a bookstore, if you wish, so that you can mark notes in the book. During the first few days of school, students in each course will take a test on this required book which will count as a regular test grade on the first marking period.

Secondly, to encourage students to read throughout the summer, we are offering a list of 7 choice books selected by a committee of high school students. Each student in grades 9 through 12 is required to read one of these choice books:

*Nineteen Minutes* by Jodi Picoult

*Cosmicomics* by Italo Calvino

*Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep* by Philip Dick

*Death is Painless* by A.L. Rosa

*The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis

*Into the Wild* by Jon Krakauer

*Wooden: A Lifetime of Reflections* by Coach John Wooden and Steve Jamison

These selections represent a variety of genres, student interests, and reading levels. Students are required to read one choice book any time before July 31. The English Department has set up a wikispace for each of the choice books, and we ask that each student post commentary on the wikispace. The student's commentary should total at least 350 words. This can be done in one longer entry or in several entries. The student can access the wiki using the school website and use suggested prompts posted there. Or a student can comment by responding to other students' comments already posted. Each book's wikispace will become an online "dialogue" with other readers about the book you are reading. A faculty moderator will help manage the wiki and keep a record of students who have posted their required commentary. That record will be given to your English teacher at the beginning of the school year.

Juniors and seniors have a third requirement to read a variety of content. They are asked to keep a record of "free reading" from a variety of non-book sources: magazines, newspapers, websites, blogs, a single chapter or introductory preface to a book, a college catalog, or other publication. The student should aim to read approximately 50 pages of different material and keep a reading form during the summer. Please turn in the form to your English teacher for evaluation on the first day of school. In addition, a wikispace for free reading will be available for students, teachers, and parents to post comments and suggest interesting articles.

### Important Points about the New Summer Reading Program

\*There is no longer an extra credit option. All students are expected to participate in all parts of the program.

\*A.P. Language and A.P. Literature students have a different required text but follow the Summer Reading Program requirements for a choice book and free reading.

\*The list of 7 choice books was developed by a committee of eight students selected by their classmates and three faculty members. Parents and students are encouraged to get descriptions and information about the books from friends, family, websites like Amazon.com, and other reviews. Check out a book, try a chapter or two, and if it doesn't interest you, switch to a different selection.

\*Book choices represent a range of tastes and a range of maturity. Each student and his or her parents must decide if a given book contains objectionable material and choose a different selection. If you have questions, contact Mrs. Kennedy (252-524-4798).

\*If a student is unable to access the wikispace before July 31 on the internet, he or she may send a hard copy of comments about the choice book to the following address:

Arendell Parrott Academy  
c/o Summer Reading Committee  
PO Box 1297  
Kinston, NC 28504 \

Any student or parent with questions about the Summer Reading Program should contact Mrs. Kennedy, Mrs. Lambert, or Mr. Logan.