June 1, 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

The Arthur L. Johnson High School English teachers, supervisor, and I are eager to present the summer reading lists to the ninth, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth-grade students for the 2020-2021 school year. Each student, including those slated for an honors-level course, will be asked to read the “required” book for his/her grade level and one more book from the “suggested” list. Students in resource-level English classes are expected to read one book of their choice over the summer; they do not need to read the “required” book. You will notice that the attached list contains titles for all students but with additional ones as well. Resource students may feel free to choose a book from this “additional” list as they are on a slightly lower reading level. Students enrolled in the AP English courses will be given a totally different assignment that is separate from these lists by their teachers. All students, however, are obviously encouraged to read beyond the previously described requirements. Please be mindful of helping your child choose a book that is commensurate with his/her reading ability. Also, please consult teachers, local librarians, and book websites as you aid your child in choosing books to gain information about reading levels and other information about various titles.

In order to complete the summer reading requirement, students (not including those in resource-level classes) should be prepared to take a reading comprehension test based on the required novel once they return to school. Also, within the first two weeks of school, your child (including those in resource-level classes) will complete a writing assignment based on the other book(s) that he/she read from the suggested list. In order to best prepare for this assignment, we encourage your child to keep a set of notes and/or an outline as he/she reads his/her suggested book(s). These notes and/or this outline may be used in class as your child crafts his/her individual writing assignment. A list of topics for consideration to help focus your child’s reading has also been included.

Both the test and the writing assignment will be administered in your child’s English class during the first two weeks of school. Specific dates for these assessments will be provided by your child’s teacher when he/she returns to school. For your convenience, the summer reading lists are posted on the ALJ website and they have been sent to the Clark Public Library and the Barnes & Noble store in Clark. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me by phone at 732-574-9600 ext. 3392 or via e-mail at egrande@clarkschools.org.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer! Happy Reading!

Yours sincerely,

Edward Grande
9th Grade Summer Reading

Required Title:
Things Not Seen by Andrew Clements

Suggested Titles:
I am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban Malala Yousafzai
“One of Us is Lying” by Karen McManus
The Five People You Meet in Heaven by Mitch Albom
A Lesson Before Dying by Ernest J. Gaines
Steve Jobs: The Man Who Thought Different by Karen Blumenthal
Wizard of Earthsea by Ursula LeGuin
The Chosen by Chaim Potok
City of the Beasts by Isabel Allende
The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy
The Golden Compass by Phillip Pullman
Sea of Trolls by Nancy Farmer
Astonishing Adventures of Fan Boy and Goth Girl by Barry Lyga
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon
Red Glass by Laura Resau
Runemarks by Joanne Harris
Dune by Frank Herbert
The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie
The Naming by Alison Croggon
The Great Wide Sea by M.H. Herlong
13 Little Blue Envelopes by Maureen Johnson
Tiger Moon by Antonia Michaelis
Nation by Terry Pratchett
Shelter by Harlan Corban
Luna by Julie Anne Peters
I Am Scout: The Biography of Harper Lee (NF) by Charles Shields
Lone Survivor: The Eyewitness Account of Operation Redwing and the Lost Heroes of SEAL Team 10 (NF) by Marcus Luttrell
We Die Alone: A WWII Epic of Escape and Endurance (NF) by David Howarth

Additional Titles:
Snitch by Allison van Diepen
What My Mother Doesn’t Know by Sonya Sones
Crank by Ellen Hopkins
You Don’t Know Me by David Klass
Cut by Patricia McCormick
Pandora Gets Jealous by Carolyn Hennesy
10th Grade Summer Reading

Required Title:
Breathing Underwater by Alex Flinn

Suggested Titles:
How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents by Julia Alvarez
"One of Us is Next" by Karen McManus
Seconds Away by Harlan Coben
Looking for Alaska by John Green
The Art of Racing in the Rain by Garth Stein
Plainsong by Kent Haruf
Bel Canto by Ann Patchett
The Perks of Being a Wallflower by Stephen Chbosky
Mexican Whiteboy by Matt de la Pena
As Simple As Snow by Gregory Galloway
Peeled by Joan Bauer
Game by Walter Dean Myers
All We Know of Heaven by Jacquelyn Mitchard
Truancy by Isamu Fukui
Middleman and Other Stories by Bharati Mukherjee
Adoration of Jenna Fox by Mary E. Pearson
Gym Candy by Carl Deuker
The Indigo Notebook by Laura Resau
Shiver by Maggie Stiefvater
Nothing Comes Easy by Y.A. Tittle with Kristine Setting Clark
Jumped by Rita Williams-Garcia
Nineteen Minutes by Jodi Picoult, Jodi
The Fixture of Us by Jay Asher and Carolyn Mackler
Ties That Bind, Ties That Break by Lesley Namioka
An Abundance of Katherines by John Green
The Memory Keeper’s Daughter by Kim Edwards
Written in Bone: Buried Lives of Jamestown and Colonial Maryland (NF) by Sally M. Walker
Chinese Cinderella: The True Story of an Unwanted Daughter (NF) by Adeline Yen Mah
The Greatest Generation (NF) by Tom Brokaw
Finding Their Stride: A Team of Young Runners and Their Season of Triumph (NF) by Sally Pont
Into Thin Air (NF) by Jon Krakauer
Three Little Words: A Memoir by Ashley Rhodes-Courter

Additional Titles:
Snitch by Allison van Diepen
What My Mother Doesn’t Know by Sonya Sones
Crank by Ellen Hopkins
You Don’t Know Me by David Klass
Cut by Patricia McCormick
Pandora Gets Jealous by Carolyn Hennesy
11th Grade Summer Reading

Required Title:
Monster by Walter Dean Myers

Suggested Titles:
The Road by Cormac McCarthy
If I Stay by Gayle Forman
Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything by Steven D. Levitt
The Things They Carried by Tim O’Brien
The Fifth Child, by Doris Lessing
The Natural by Bernard Malamud
Framny and Zooey by J.D. Salinger
Tender is the Night by F. Scott Fitzgerald
A Prayer for Owen Meany by John Irving
Snow Falling on Cedars by David Guterson
East of Eden by John Steinbeck
Lords of Discipline by Pat Conroy
April Morning by Howard Fast
Rain of Gold by Victor E. Villasenor
The Heretic’s Daughter by Kathleen Kent
Wintergirls by Laurie Halse Anderson
Shift by Jennifer Bradbury
The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie by Alan C. Bradley
Tell No One: A Novel by Harlan Coben
Brother, I’m Dying by Edwidge Danticat
Little Brother by Cory Doctorow
Homer and Langley by E.L. Doctorow
Before I Die by Jenny Downham
The Bonesetter’s Daughter by Amy Tan
House of Sand and Fog by Andre Dubus
Into the Wild (NF) by Jon Krakauer
No Choirboy: Murder, Violence, and Teenagers on Death Row (NF) by Susan Kuklin
The Zookeeper’s Wife: A War Story (NF) by Diane Ackerman
A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier (NF) by Ishmael Beah

Additional Titles:
Snitch by Allison van Diepen
What My Mother Doesn’t Know by Sonya Sones
Crank by Ellen Hopkins
You Don’t Know Me by David Klass
Cut by Patricia McCormick
Pandora Gets Jealous by Carolyn Hennesy
12th Grade Summer Reading

Required Title:
*Kite-Runner* by Khaled Hosseini

Suggested Titles:
Dead Man Walking by Sister Helen Prejean
A Hope in the Unseen by Ron Suskind
The Namesake by Jhumpa Lahiri
An Enemy of the People by Henrik Ibsen
Emma by Jane Austen
Cold Mountain by Charles Frazier
Welcome to the Monkey House by Kurt Vonnegut
Little Children by Tom Perrotta
Life of Pi by Yann Martel
She’s Come Undone by Wally Lamb
A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini
Girl With a Pearl Earring by Tracy Chevalier
My Sister’s Keeper by Jodi Picoult
Interpreter of Maladies by Jhumpa Lahiri
Sister Wife by Shelley Hrdlitschka
Prep by Curtis Sittenfeld
The Last Exit to Normal by Michael B. Harmon
Identical by Ellen Hopkins
Unaccustomed Earths by Jhumpa Lahiri
Run by Ann Patchett
The Friday Night Knitting Club by Kate Jacobs
Raider’s Night by Robert Lipsyte
Shattering Glass by Gail Giles
We Wish to Inform You that Tomorrow We Will be Killed With Our Families: Stories From Rwanda (NF) by Phillip Gourevitch
Daughter of Persia: A Woman’s Journal from her Father’s Harem through the Islamic Revolution (NF) by Sattarch Farmaian
Girlbomb: A Halfway Homeless Memoir (NF) by Janice Erlbaum

Additional Titles:
Snitch by Allison van Diepen
What My Mother Doesn’t Know by Sonya Sones
Crank by Ellen Hopkins
You Don’t Know Me by David Klass
Cut by Patricia McCormick
Pandora Gets Jealous by Carolyn Hennes