Dear Incoming Seventh and Eighth Graders,

We are excited to learn alongside you in English class this coming year. You will grow immensely as a reader and as a writer, and that growth starts with your summer assignments. Here are a few things we would like for you to complete this summer in preparation for the 2020-2021 school year:

**READING:**

- **Required Book for 7th and 8th Graders:** *The Wild Things* by Dave Eggers
- **Please also read two more fiction or nonfiction books at your reading level.** Below is a list of suggested titles, but you do not have to read these books if they are not appealing. Be sure to read a sample or a review online to make sure they’re right for you! You can also head over to goodreads.com and yournextread.com to find other great books. Please also email Bob Keal (8th) or LaShanda Lawrence (7th) if you are looking for suggestions. We’d love to help!

  We will start the year by discussing our summer reading, so please read carefully and enjoy!

**Suggested Fiction Titles:**

- *Jurassic Park* by Michael Crichton
- *Darius the Great Is Not Okay* by Adib Khorram
- *Chaos Walking* (Series) by Patrick Ness
- *We Were Liars* by E. Lockhart
- *The Journey Back* by Priscilla Cummings (sequel to *The Red Kayak*)
- *Ghost* (Series) by Jason Reynolds

**Suggested Nonfiction Titles**

- *Escape From Camp 14* by Blaine Harden
- *Enrique’s Journey (Young Readers Adaptation): The True Story of a Boy Determined to Reunite with His Mother* by Sonia Nazario
- *I Am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai

**WRITING:**

Write about **one significant moment** from this summer in great detail using all five senses.

- **Please do not write about the whole summer--or even a whole day. Choose a moment!**
- **Elaborate** with plenty of accurate, precise details.
- **Structure** the piece with a beginning, middle, and an end.
- **Proofread** for spelling, grammar, and punctuation
- **Please do this writing by yourself, without any assistance from an adult.**

Roughly, this personal essay should be two to three pages long, double-spaced, using 12-point font. However, quality is much more important than quantity.

See you in the fall!

Sincerely,

LaShanda Lawrence, Seventh Grade English Teacher
Bob Keal, Eighth Grade English Teacher