



Huntington Union Free School District

"A Tradition of Excellence Since 1657"

Beth McCoy
Assistant Superintendent
Curriculum & Instruction

June 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian of student entering grades 10 and 11:

RE: 2018 SUMMER READING PROGRAM, Huntington High School, Advancing to 10th and 11th Grade

We are pleased to present the Huntington High School Summer Reading Program. Summer is a time for exploration and leisure, and we hope that reading will be an important part of your child's summer activities. We have included a suggested reading list from which your child can select a book to read for English class. All books have literary merit, but some may be suitable for more mature students. We urge you to carefully review the list and help your child make a selection that is appropriate based on interest, age, reading level and maturity.

Our school district is offering a special opportunity for Huntington High School students.

This summer, an English teacher will give a book talk at the Huntington Public Library (Station Branch) for a half hour on Thursday evenings in July to inspire your child to read one of these books.

Your child can attend any or all of the offered sessions below. These are free and require no registration.

Session Dates: July 12, 19, 26 (focus on grades 10 and 11)

July 12th book talk will be on *Looking for Alaska* (2006) by John Green with Ms. Schiller

July 19th book talk will be on *How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accent* (1992) by Julia Alvarez with Ms. Schiller

July 26th – Ms. Schiller will provide guidance in completing summer reading assignment

Time: 7:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Location: Huntington Public Library (Station Branch)

After attending the first evening book talk, regents-level students entering grades 10 and 11 will be given guidance in completing a summer reading assignment for English class. In the English Summer Reading Program, students are asked to keep a double-entry journal while reading the book. All students who complete this summer assignment will receive feedback and *earn extra credit in quarter one*. Students entering Advanced Placement and Honors English courses have different requirements.

Our English teachers and full faculty encourage you to explore the joy of reading this summer! We also look forward to seeing you at the public library for one or more of these valuable book talks.

Sincerely,

Beth McCoy
Assistant Superintendent
Curriculum and Instruction

Joseph Leavy
Chairperson of Humanities

English Summer Reading Assignment Directions

Select **5 -10 important lines/sections** in total from the book that you've read that relate to the grade-level theme. Choose lines that show how a character acts, thinks, and feels, and/or specific plot events associated with course theme. Quote the text.

Please note: Quotes must be spread evenly and chosen from pages throughout the book. For example, a few quotes from the beginning, some from the middle, and from the end of the book that strike you as important. The reading quote organizer will be collected. An example is shown below.

THESE JOURNALS MUST BE TYPED. Submission instructions will be provided in September.

Important Quote	Page #	Explanation/ Connection to Theme
"But it was a time of vague optimism for some of the people: Maycomb County had recently been told that it had nothing to fear but fear itself"	6	Harper Lee, in <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> , makes an allusion to FDR's famous speech "we have nothing to fear but fear itself". This reveals that the setting of the book is the 1930s. If citizens are scared after losing all of their money in the stock market crash they may be less likely to be heroes. It must be hard to stand up for what's right when you have no sense of security. That probably makes those good moral people who end up being heroes even better than the ordinary people in the town.

English Course Reading Selections

Entering Tenth Grade (Regents level)

Thematic Focus: Identity

John Green - *Looking for Alaska* (2006)

Miles "Pudge" Halter's whole existence has been one big nonevent. He heads off to the sometimes crazy, possibly unstable, and anything-but-boring world of Culver Creek Boarding School. His life becomes the opposite of safe because down the hall is the gorgeous, clever, funny, self-destructive, screwed-up, and utterly fascinating Alaska Young. She pulls Pudge into her world, launches him into the Great Perhaps, and steals his heart. Nothing is ever the same again.

M.T. Anderson - *Feed* (2004)

Identity crises, consumerism, and star-crossed teenage love in a futuristic society where people connect to the Internet via feeds implanted in their brains. For Titus and his friends, it started out like any ordinary trip to the moon - a chance to party during spring break. But that was before the crazy hacker caused all their feeds to malfunction, sending them to the hospital to lie around with nothing inside their heads for days. And it was before Titus met Violet, a beautiful, brainy teenage girl who has decided to fight the feed.

Entering Eleventh Grade (Regents level)

Thematic Focus: The American Experience

Julia Alvarez - *How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accent* (1992)

The García sisters—Carla, Sandra, Yolanda, and Sofia—and their family must flee their home in the Dominican Republic after their father's role in an attempt to overthrow a tyrannical dictator is discovered. They arrive in New York City in 1960 to a life far removed from their existence in the Caribbean. In the wild and wondrous and not always welcoming U.S.A., their parents try to hold on to their old ways, but the girls try find new lives: by forgetting their Spanish, by straightening their hair and wearing fringed bell bottoms. For them, it is at once liberating and excruciating to be caught between the old world and the new.

Reyna Grande - *The Distance Between Us: A Memoir* (2013)

When Reyna Grande's father leaves his wife and three children behind in a village in Mexico to make the dangerous trek across the border to the United States, he promises he will soon return with enough money to build them a dream house. His promises become harder to believe as months turn into years. When he summons his wife to join him, Reyna and her siblings are deposited in the already overburdened household of their stern, unsmiling grandmother. The three siblings look out for themselves; in childish games they find a way to forget the pain of abandonment and learn to solve very adult problems. Eventually a reunion between parents and children begins a dramatic new chapter in Reyna's life.