



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 grade 12:

RE: 2018 SUMMER READING PROGRAM, Huntington High School, Advancing to 12th 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 his or her respective senior English class. All books have literary merit, but some may be suitable for more mature students.

Our school district is offering a special opportunity for Huntington High School students. This summer, a teacher will give a book talk at the Huntington Public Library (Station Branch) for a half hour on Thursday evenings in August to inspire your child to read. Your child can attend any or all of the offered sessions below. These are free and require no registration.

Dates for seniors only are: August 2, 9, 16 with either Mr. Leavy or Ms. Hudak

August 2nd book talk is on *Pillars of the Earth* by Ken Follett

August 9th book talk is on *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America* by Barbara Ehrenreich

August 16th - Ms. Hudak will give guidance in completing 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 9-12 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 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

Book choices for 12th graders

Ken Follett - *Pillars of the Earth*

Suggested for students entering Humanities

Theme: Human interaction through struggle

A twelfth-century monk driven to do the seemingly impossible: build the greatest Gothic cathedral the world has ever known. The building of the cathedral, with the almost eerie artistry of the unschooled stonemasons, is the center of the drama. Around the site of the construction, Follett weaves a story of betrayal, revenge, and love, which begins with the public hanging of an innocent man.

Barbara Ehrenreich - *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America*

Theme: Empathy

Suggested for students entering Multicultural Literature/Holocaust in Literature and Journalism

Millions of Americans work for poverty-level wages, and one day Barbara Ehrenreich decided to join them. She was inspired by the rhetoric surrounding welfare reform, which promised that any job equals a better life. But how can anyone survive, let alone prosper, on \$6 to \$7 an hour?

Anita Diamant - *The Red Tent*

Suggested for students entering Bible as/in Literature

Theme: Women's roles and expectations

In the Bible, Dinah's life is only hinted at in a brief and violent detour within the more familiar chapters of the Book of Genesis that are about her father, Jacob, and his dozen sons. Told in Dinah's voice, this novel reveals the traditions and turmoils of ancient womanhood--the world of the red tent. Deeply affecting, *The Red Tent* combines rich storytelling with a valuable achievement in modern fiction.

Mike Lupica - *Heat*

Suggested for students entering Film & Short Story/Sports Literature

Theme: Personal struggle

Michael Arroyo has a pitching arm that throws serious heat along with aspirations of leading his team all the way to the Little League World Series. But his firepower is nothing compared to the heat Michael faces in his day-to-day life. Newly orphaned after his father led the family's escape from Cuba, Michael's only family is his seventeen-year old brother.

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. The quotes *do not* have to be the character's dialogue and could be part of the narration.

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.

MUST BE SUBMITTED BY SEPTEMBER 30TH. Submission instructions will be provided in September.

Important Quote	Page #	Explanation/ Connection to Theme
<p>"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"</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>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.</p>