



May 21, 2018

Dear Students/Parents/Guardians:

On behalf of Gorton High School, the English Department congratulates you for completing another year of study. We hope that the reading, writing, speaking, listening, and thinking you shared with your classmates and teachers this year helped you hone your communication skills and learn more about yourself and the world.

As you prepare for summer break, please consider the following thoughts related to the *Summer Book Club Assignment* your teachers distributed to you in class:

- ❖ **Summer reading is important!** When we practice, particularly if that practice is purposeful, we get better. Reading and thinking skills serve you now and will continue to serve you in the future. Improving these skills is one of the best investments you can make. When you read regularly, you become a better reader. There are no shortcuts.
- ❖ **Developing good habits requires planning.** If you already read regularly, then you are all set. If not, then you need to make a plan. When will you read? Where will you read? Good intentions often fail when one doesn't have a plan. Read before you go to sleep. If you notice that you fall asleep when you read, read in the morning when you wake up. Aim for at least half an hour of reading each day.
- ❖ **It's never too late to get started.** Consider this *Book Club Assignment* an invitation to start reading.

We have spent time in class reading your book and reviewing your *Summer Book Club Assignment*. Give yourself a chance to get lost in the story, to fight your desire to skip to the final pages to find out what happens, to meet new characters that you will remember forever. We, your English teachers, want to share this 'Summer Book Club' experience with you. Please join us!

Parents: Please support your child and monitor their progress as they complete their *Summer Assignment*. Attached is a Student/Parent Contract. Please sign and return to your child's teacher by May 25, 2018.

Happy Reading!

***Mrs. DeMatteo, Mrs. Bhasin, Mrs. Merna, Mrs. Potter,
Mrs. Santos, Mrs. Marinello, Mr. Wilson, Mrs. Cooke***