June 2013

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Research shows that independent reading strengthens a students' comprehension skills. The Summer Vacation Reading Program requires our High School students to read during their summer vacation to improve their reading skills.

Your son/daughter will have a list of books that they are required to read this summer. It will be your responsibility as a parent or guardian to buy or borrow the books. They must read two of the books from the list and write a book report on the papers sent home in their package. The students must write the book report without plagiarism from another source. The teachers will be checking to make sure they have not copied the summary from the back of the book or went online and copied a book report.

This requirement is worth an additional 2% of your son/daughter's first reading report card grade in the fall. There is no good reason for a student to be penalized! Reading two books over the summer is possible for all students with eleven weeks of vacation. In addition to the 2% your child will also receive a five dollar gift card if they read 2 books and write 2 book reports in their <u>OWN</u> writing. Some students may choose to read for bonus points. They may earn up to a 4% bonus by reading and writing a report for four books.

For example:

If your child's first 9 weeks ends with 80% and they have read <u>4 books with</u> <u>complete written reports not copied from other sources</u>, then 4% is added. His/Her final grade would be 84% and a five dollar gift card.

If your child has read <u>2 books with complete</u> written reports not copied from <u>other sources</u>, then their final grade would be 82% and a five dollar gift card.

If your child has <u>NOT</u> read any books, then 2% would be deducted from their grade. Their final grade would be 78%.

Hopefully, this additional reading and writing practice will be beneficial. Also, the students have been given the responsibility for completing a task and keeping their materials for a longer time than we would usually require during the school year. Please encourage your son/daughter to participate in this program successfully.

Sincerely,

English, Literature/Reading Teacher