



ONE OF THE CHESAPEAKE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GREAT BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL
301 HANBURY ROAD WEST • CHESAPEAKE, VA 23322
(757) 482-5191 • FAX (757) 482-5559

May 18, 2009

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Your child is enrolled in Dual Enrollment at Great Bridge High School for the 2009-2010 academic school year. I extend to you a pledge to challenge your child in all aspects of language study, including writing, reading, grammar, and oral communications.

In anticipation of the rigorous course of study, your child will be required to read novels, plays, and/or essays during the summer. The list of required summer reading is attached to this letter and will be made available to local libraries and bookstores. It is advisable for students to purchase the books. Used copies of the books may be found at reduced prices on the Internet.

During the first week of English class, students will be required to turn in assessments on the required reading assignment. Required tests or essays will be completed in class during the first marking period. Please review the assessments over the summer with your child as they will play a role in the calculation of your child's English grade. A sample of a dialectic response journal is located on the Great Bridge High School website. You may access the site at www.cps.k12.va.us.

Remember, students should be prepared with assessments on the first day of class in September or January depending upon their schedule. It is advised that students with English in January complete the assessments over the summer and use the time at the end of first semester to review the assignments for second semester. Should you have any questions about the summer reading, please call me at 482-5191, or e-mail me at russecan@cps.k12.va.us. I look forward to working with your child.

Sincerely,

Carol B. Russell
English Department

Joyce Dugan
Assistant Principal for Instruction

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT DUAL ENROLLMENT

The following literature selections are to be used for the summer reading assessment for incoming Dual Enrollment students at Great Bridge High School. The assessment will be due the first day of class. It will be counted as a test grade in Dual Enrollment.

Book:

Freakonomics by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner

** This book should be purchased. It will be used throughout the course for reference.

Assessment:

The student will write an in-class essay(s) on the topics below:

1. The authors claim there is no unifying theme to the book. Do you agree? How would you describe the central idea of the book? What is the purpose of the book?
2. Below is a link that will take you to a book review of the book. Create a response to the critic's remarks. Do you agree with her assessment of the book? Why or why not? What is your critique of the book? What did you find interesting, difficult, dull, humorous, revealing, insightful, etc.?

http://bestsellers.about.com/od/nonfictionreviews/gr/freakonomics_r.htm

Books:

(CHOOSE ONE)

The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls

OR

The Greatest Generation by Tom Brokaw

Assessment: Due the first day of class

The student will create a response journal that focuses on how the book makes a profound impact on the reader. For example, if the book initiates a change in the way the reader thinks or feels about the subject matter, then the student can identify the elements of the book that brought about the change. Students must provide at least two responses per chapter for the journal. At least two of the responses should be a quote from the work that evokes a response from the reader. Each quote must be clearly typed within the journal for reference. Please refer to the school website to complete the assignment. All journals must be typed, double-spaced, 12-point Ariel or Times New Roman font. **Late assignments will not be accepted.**

Do not use Spark Notes, Cliff's Notes, etc. If you need these "aids" to understand the assigned reading, this course is probably not for you. You should be able to find the books at Waldenbooks, Barnes & Noble, the library, and on-line.