**Sophomore Honors English Summer Reading 2019-2020**

Welcome to your Sophomore Honors English class! We are excited that you are enrolled in our class. In Sophomore Honors, much of the literature focuses on classical Greek mythology as well as more modern pieces with similar themes. This class requires an extensive amount of analytical reading and thinking. To get you started, we have put together a list of **required summer reading** as well as a list of *suggested* reading.

 **Required** **Suggested**

*\*Oedipus Rex* by Sophocles *The Iliad* by Homer

 *Antigone* by Sophocles

\*Please obtain your own copy of *Oedipus the King* translated by Robert Bagg as this will allow you to take annotated notes; the title of the book in which this translation is found is *Sophocles The Oedipus Cycle*. This translation of *Oedipus* can be purchasedon *Amazon.com* as well as at local book stores. Ifpurchasing your own copy is not possible, please go to the Wigwam before the end of the school year.

We will begin school on August 21, 2019. By this time, we ask that you have carefully read and annotated *Oedipus the King*. As you read, carefully annotate the text, and consider the following questions to guide your reading:

* How does Sophocles utilize indirect characterization to convey the character traits of Oedipus? What effect (if any) do these character traits have on the outcome of the play?
* Evaluate the influence of fate and free will on the events of the play. Are the events of the play primarily a result of personal choices and decisions, or factors beyond individuals’ control?
* Based on the events of the play, what message does Sophocles ultimately convey about the influence of fate and/or free will?

Within our first week of school, you will write an in-class reaction paper over the play. You will be required to include blended quotations from the play in this paper.

If you have any questions, you may contact us by e-mail over the summer. Please be aware that it may take us some time to get back to you. Enjoy your summer! We look forward to meeting you in the fall.

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