10 Honors Summer Reading 2020: Troy High School

1. Read the one course required novel:
   1984 by George Orwell

2. Read one of the following fiction texts:
   * In the Time of Butterflies* by Julia Alvarez
   * A Yellow Raft in Blue Water* by Michael Dorris
   * Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah
   * A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini
   * The Bean Trees* by Barbara Kingsolver
   * Interpreter of Maladies* by Jhumpa Lahiri
   * Song Yet Sung* by James McBride
   * A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith

   **NOTE:** Research indicates that students are more likely to read, and read thoughtfully, when they have an opportunity to choose what they read. Thus, we have compiled a list of texts to engage you in your quest for a deeper understanding of the world in which we live. As some of the books contain mature content, we advise you to review a synopsis of the text before commencing your reading and study. If you wish to substitute a work of fiction for the choices above, you must contact Mrs. Parks at sparks@troy.k12.mi.us to request the change. Any text you select, though, should be substantial and of literary merit.

In addition to reading these two books, you have two reader responses to write:

1. Please write a response of approximately 250 words for Orwell's *1984*. The prompt is as follows:

   A dystopic society is an imaginary society in which people lead dehumanized and often fearful lives under some type of control. Such types of control include technological control, philosophical/religious control, bureaucratic/government control, and psychological control. Choose one of these types of control. Then, explain how this type of control creates conflict for the protagonist and how it influences the meaning of the work as whole.

2. Please write a response of approximately 250 words for your fiction text. The prompt is as follows:

   Over the course of a novel, which by definition is a lengthier work of fiction, the protagonist develops as a character in response to a specific conflict. Some of the most significant means of growth originate in the form of psychological and moral development. Select a single pivotal moment in the psychological or moral development of the protagonist and analyze how that single moment shapes the protagonist’s character.

   **Reading and assignments will be due within the first two weeks of school.**