

Dear Parents,

Reading is not only a life-long skill that a person needs to succeed as a student and a worker, but also an essential skill in civic and personal activities. Perhaps even more importantly, reading opens the world to a person through various forms of literature. Reading gives students the opportunity to learn about people, times, regions, and ideas that may enhance their knowledge and development. Reading also can bring a lifetime of pleasure.

Research strongly suggests that reading, like most skills, improves with practice and declines when we neglect it for even a short time. Therefore, consistent with our commitment to prepare all students for success during school and after graduation, East Islip School District continues to expect all students to read during the summer.

In keeping with the belief that reading promotes students' mental growth, improves their capacity to process information, and enhances their ability to understand themselves and the world around them, students at EIHS will read and respond to the texts they read. Successful completion of the summer reading assignment will benefit your child as he or she progresses through our curriculum. We owe it to our students to prepare them for an increasingly competitive and complex world.

This summer reading information can also be obtained on the EI High School Web Page.

“But... I don't know what to read!”

Consider giving some of these authors a try:

Jodi Picoult: *My Sister's Keeper, Handle with Care, Sing You Home, Nineteen Minutes, Lone Wolf, House Rules, The Tenth Circle* (family relationships, love, contemporary)

Chris Crutcher: *Whale Talk, Deadline, Ironman, The Sledding Hill, Staying Fat For Sarah Byrnes*, (controversial, contemporary, teens with serious problems, often mature themes, witty and humorous)

Sharon Draper: *Forged by Fire, Tears of a Tiger, Copper Sun, Darkness Before Dawn, The Battle of Jericho, Romiette and Julio* (contemporary, teen, grief, relationships, coping)

Paul Volponi: *Black and White, Rikers High, Rooftop, Rucker Park Setup*, etc.

Amy Tan: *Joy Luck Club, The Bonesetter's Daughter, The Valley of Amazement*

Bill Bryson: *At Home, I'm a Stranger Here Myself*, etc. (humorous essays)

Carlos Eire: *Waiting for Snow in Havana, Learning to Die in Miami* (memoirs of a Cuban immigrant)

Erik Larson: *The Devil in the White City, In the Garden of Beasts* (non-fiction, great writing and incident)

Are you more of a fan of graphic novels or manga? THOSE ARE BOOKS, TOO!

Note: These choices should still be full length. That means a volume of a comic rather than an issue.

OTHER HELPFUL RESOURCES:

East Islip Public Library
eipl.org

New York Public Library
nypl.org/books-music-movies

Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA)
booklists.yalsa.net

East Islip High School



Students entering

Grade 11

2024

Summer Reading

Dear EI students,

Since good readers make good writers and good writers make good thinkers, each student in East Islip High School is required to complete reading and writing assignments in preparation for the fall semester.

The Particulars

Regents Level:

Read one book of your choosing and be prepared to complete an assignment upon return to school in September.

Choosing a Book

- ◆ Please do not select previously read works.
- ◆ Select titles that are on or above your reading level.
- ◆ You can find any appropriate books at your local library. There is no need to purchase the book you read.

Honors/AP Level:

Assignments were distributed in class. They are also available on the district website.

Late Enrollment

Students who enroll after the semester begins will have 3 weeks to submit all assignments.

**Call if you have questions:
(631) 224-2079. Leave a message
with a phone number if you
reach the voice mail.**

English Department

The English Department of East Islip is committed to upholding instructional excellence. As a team, we embrace a high standard of academic rigor, defined according to 21st century criteria. Our mission is to develop and foster a lifelong appreciation of the written word and to provide students with the critical reading, writing, listening and communication skills necessary to succeed beyond high school. Through the analysis of literature, students develop a sharpened awareness of the human condition and a heightened sensitivity to a myriad of life experiences. We strive for students to be productive, caring members of a global society.

ASSIGNMENT

The culminating activity will be assigned by your teacher once school begins.

We recommend you actively read in some of the following ways to make sure you are prepared for the assignment:

- ◆ Use post-it notes to record any thoughts, ideas, questions, etc. you have while reading or to mark any important passages.
- ◆ Journal and reflect after every chapter or every few chapters (this can be very informal).
- ◆ Talk about your book with friends and family.

What are some things you should consider while reading?

- ◆ Who are the main characters? What are some of their driving character traits? Flaws? Do the characters remind you of characters from any other texts/TV shows/films?
- ◆ What are some conflicts present throughout? Can these conflicts relate to real life events?
- ◆ What are some of the most important passages or lines of the story? These might be major events of the story, beautiful descriptions, character development, etc.
- ◆ If the text you chose is nonfiction, consider what message the author seeks to convey, the choices the author makes to convey that message, the author's purpose for writing the story, and any background/contextual information to the topic someone who reads it must know.