

Orchard Park Central School District

2240 Southwestern Blvd. West Seneca, NY 14224



David Lilleck
Superintendent

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May 2026

Dear Student:

According to school records, you intend to take AP 11 English Language and Composition next year. We are delighted you are willing to commit the time and effort this course requires, and we feel sure you will have an enriching experience.

AP 11 follows a demanding reading schedule. Therefore, we are requiring you to read **two** works over the summer: *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* by Frederick Douglass and *Educated: A Memoir* by Tara Westover. **We will begin the year with these two texts.** Make sure you keep your copies of the books for use in September. If you do not wish to buy copies, you may borrow them. Stop by room 314 to sign them out.

Because you will need to discuss and write about both books in detail weeks after reading them, we recommend—*strongly*—that you **annotate**, record your thoughts in a reading journal, or even do both. Preserve your insights as you interact with these fascinating and thought-provoking authors.

- Pay attention both to what the authors say and how they say it. Wherever you can, challenge yourself to identify the techniques and methods Douglass and Westover use to tug at your feelings or persuade you on an idea.
- Record page numbers to help you navigate the texts with specificity and precision in the fall.
- Look up and define words you do not know.
- Work out where you agree or disagree with their arguments.
- Above all, take pride in showing up in the fall with the deepest possible understanding of what you've read, setting a high standard right from the start.

Over the summer try to read **more** than just the two books we are assigning you. A range of reading material should supply both fun and a solid foundation for your junior year. **We cannot emphasize enough how much reading on your own will strengthen your comprehension, sharpen your writing,** prepare you for the ELA and AP exams, and build up your vocabulary. So please, read!

We are looking forward to meeting and working with you. If you would like to chat about anything at all related to AP English Language and Composition, stop by and visit Mrs. Dole-Waffner (room 315) or Mr. Hackford (room 319) any time before the end of the school year.

We hope you have a salubrious summer!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Dole-Waffner and Mr. Hackford