

PALATINE HIGH SCHOOL

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TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 211

Gary Steiger
Principal

Daniel E. Cates
Superintendent

May, 2017

Dear Parents:

Welcome to Advanced Placement Language and Composition! We are looking forward to having your children in class next year, and we hope they are ready to read some great texts. Our text selections will be consistent with the College Board's course description for the English Language and Composition course:

An AP course in English Language and Composition engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of rhetorical contexts, and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Both their writing and their reading should make students aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subjects as well as the way generic conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing.

The AP Language and Composition exam consists of an objective test and three essay questions. The quality and quantity of the assigned reading in our course is intended to prepare students for the AP test, but it will also prepare them for college-level reading and introduce them to techniques used by good writers.

This summer we are requiring Advanced Placement Language students to read one of the following two texts:

Columbine by David Cullen (Twelve Books, ISBN 978-0446546928)

OR

Where Men Win Glory by John Krakauer (Anchor, ISBN 978-0307386045)

During the summer, students are expected to carefully read their text. Students can expect a test on the book they choose during the first week of school. Our goal with this reading is to allow students to explore the structural, linguistic, and thematic elements of full non-fiction works. Since many students are familiar with the conventions of fiction, we hope to build on this existing knowledge as a means of understanding and interpreting non-fiction, a major course objective of AP Language and Composition.

If you have questions about the summer reading program or the AP literature class, please contact Mr. Quick or Mrs. Fazio using the e-mail addresses below.

Sincerely,

2017-2018 AP English Language and Composition Instructors

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