Dear Parent or Guardian:

We are delighted to hear that your student has made the choice to enroll in a Pre-AP/AP course. You and your student have made a choice to accept an academic challenge, and we are here to support you both in any way that we can.

Your student received a copy of his/her summer reading assignment at school. He or she signed an “Acknowledgement and Acceptance of Assignment” form stating that he/she received the assignment for summer reading and that he/she understands that this is a requirement to enroll in a Pre-AP/AP course. The wording on the form is as follows:

By enrolling in a pre-AP/AP course, I understand that I am REQUIRED to complete a summer reading assignment. The details of the assignment are located within my grade-level specific documents. By signing below, I acknowledge that I have received the assignment details, and I understand that I am required to complete this assignment BEFORE the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year. I also understand that if I do not complete the required assignments, I will receive a failing grade for the assignments related to summer reading and will not be able to “redo” this assignment.

To ensure the success of your student, we wanted to be sure that our parents are aware of this assignment, its requirements (per grade level), and the due date. These specific guidelines are available on our district’s webpage for English Language Arts (ELA) for each grade level in which summer reading assignments are required (7th, 8th, English I, and English II, AP Language, and AP Literature).

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me by email at candi.callas@midlandisd.net or by calling me directly at (432) 240-1391. I am looking forward to working with you and your student next school year.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Candi Callas
Language Arts Director
Midland Independent School District
Choose 1 of the texts listed on the back.
Assignment: Index Card Assignment
Due Date: 8/29/18

While students are encouraged to read all summer long, incoming 7th grade preAP English students must read one new novel before the beginning of school. Students will choose one novel from the following list and respond to the novel by completing an index card assignment. The reading experience and index card information will be integrated into the first unit of 7th grade preAP English.

Index card instructions:
Create one 4x6 index card for each of the following elements of the novel: characters, conflicts, setting, plot, theme, and vocabulary. Notes can be added both during and after reading. Information should be presented in well-constructed, complete sentences. The notes should be hand-written and should include correct spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and word choice.

Card #1 - Characters - Describe the main characters of the novel.
Card #2 - Setting - Describe when and where the story takes place. Explain how the setting influences the events in the plot.
Card #3 - Plot - List 10 major events in the plot. Be sure to include events that represent the exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution.
Card #4 - Conflicts - Explain the major obstacles/problems faced by the main character(s). Include both internal and external conflicts.
Card #5 - Theme - What message(s) about life or human nature does the author want to share through his work? Usually, the life lesson the main character learns is the message the author wants to share with the reader.
Card #6 - Vocabulary - While reading, mark unfamiliar words with sticky notes or paper clips. List at least 10 unfamiliar words, the page number where each word can be found in your novel, and a definition that supports the word in the context in which it is used.

The cards and the novel, if available, should be brought to class on 8/29/18. Only 6 index cards will be accepted. The grade for summer reading assignment will be recorded as a minor grade.

Any related assignments made after school starts may be recorded as major grades.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Book Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Summary</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Peak</strong></td>
<td>By Roland Smith</td>
<td>When fourteen-year-old Peak Marcello's long-lost father presents the opportunity for them to summit Everest together, Peak doesn't even consider saying no—even though he suspects there are a few strings attached. And if he makes it to the top before his birthday, he'll be the youngest person ever to stand above 29,000 feet. It's not a bad turn of events for a guy who's been stuck in New York City with only skyscrapers to (illegally) scale. Here, in Peak's own words, is the exhilarating, gut-wrenching story of what happened on that climb to the top of the world—a climb that changed everything. Welcome to Mount Everest.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</strong></td>
<td>By Mark Twain</td>
<td>Whether forming a pirate gang to search for buried treasure or sharing his medicine with Aunt Polly’s cat, the irrepressible Tom Sawyer evokes the world of boyhood in nineteenth-century rural America. After witnessing a grave robbery and a murder, Tom and Huck Finn hide out on an island while the townspeople conduct a frantic search and finally mourn them as dead. The friends return to town to attend their own funeral, only to come face-to-face with the murderer. With its hilarious accounts of boyish pranks and its shrewd assessments of human nature, <em>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</em> has captivated generations of readers of all ages.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle</strong></td>
<td>By Avi</td>
<td>Thirteen-year-old Charlotte Doyle is excited to return home from her school in England to her family in Rhode Island in the summer of 1832. But when the two families she was supposed to travel with mysteriously cancel their trips, Charlotte finds herself the lone passenger on a long sea voyage with a cruel captain and a mutinous crew. Worse yet she becomes ensnared in a conflict between them! What begins as an eagerly anticipated ocean crossing turns into a harrowing journey, where Charlotte gains a villainous enemy and is put on trial for murder!</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The Princess Bride</strong></td>
<td>By William Goldman</td>
<td>What happens when the most beautiful girl in the world marries the handsomest prince of all time and he turns out to be a lot less than the man of her dreams? William Goldman loved to hear his father read the Morgenstern classic, <em>The Princess Bride</em>. But as a grown-up he discovered that the boring parts were left out of good old Dad's recitation. Goldman has reconstructed the good parts version to delight kids and grownups everywhere. What's it about? Fencing. Fighting. True Love. Strong Hate. Harsh Revenge. A Few Giants. Lots of Bad Men. Lots of Good Men. Five or Six Beautiful Women. Some Swell Escapes and Captures. Death, Lies, Truth, and Miracles. In short, it's about everything!</td>
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<td><strong>The Running Dream</strong></td>
<td>By Wendelin Van Draanen</td>
<td>Jessica thinks her life is over when she loses a leg in a car accident. As she struggles to cope with crutches and a first cyborg-like prosthetic leg, Jessica feels oddly both in the spotlight and invisible. People who don't know what to say, act like she's not there. Which she could handle better if she weren't now aware that she'd done the same thing herself to a girl with CP named Rosa, a girl who is going to tutor her through all the math she's missed. With the support of family, friends, a coach, and her track teammates, Jessica may actually be able to run again. But that's not enough for her now. She doesn't just want to cross finish lines herself—she wants to take Rosa with her.</td>
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