



Oceana High School
Jefferson Union High School District
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Dear Students, Parents/Guardians of the Freshman Class of 2013,

Welcome to Oceana! We are so excited to meet you in August for orientation and the beginning of our journey together in Humanities. The best way for you to become a better reader and to develop a larger vocabulary is to read! So, to keep your mind active and your reading skills sharp, we ask that you choose a summer reading book from the list below. Look for the book at your local library or independent bookstore, or Barnes and Noble at Metro Center or Borders at Stonestown.

Task 1: Pick a book from the list below. Just read ONE! You might want to read summaries of the books before choosing one. You can find summaries at Amazon.com or on the back of the book.

- *Caucasia* by Danzy Senna
- *Pictures of Hollis Woods* by Patricia Reilly Giff
- *Chu Ju's House* by Gloria Whelan
- *Keesha's House* by Helen Frost
- *Buddha Boy* by Kathe Koja
- *The Afterlife* by Gary Soto
- *How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents* by Julia Alvarez
- *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime* by Mark Haddon

Task 2: Written Assignment

Once you have finished the book you have chosen, you need to complete ONE assignment from the list on the back of this sheet. Choose wisely--we encourage you to be creative, challenge yourself, and have fun. *Please flip this sheet over to see what your assignment choices are.*

THIS WORK IS DUE ON THE DAY WE BEGIN SCHOOL—AUGUST 18th! Start your year off on the right foot, and show your teachers how responsible you can be.

Sincerely,
The 9th grade Humanities Team

Summer Reading: Written Assignment

Congratulations on finishing your summer reading book! Now, please just choose **ONE assignment** from the list below to complete. Make your assignment creative, original, and detailed! Most importantly, it must be ORIGINAL work! Plagiarism is not accepted and will result in a zero on this assignment.

1. **Music Director:** Make a soundtrack for the book by choosing at least 10 popular songs. For each song, explain in at least three sentences why you chose the song and how it relates to the events or characters in the book (two pages total). Feel free to submit a CD with your written work.
2. **Stan Lee Returns:** Make the book into a short graphic novel (at least 10 panels in vibrant, full color with text.) Include quotations or summaries in the text that relate to the illustrations. Please put the quotes in quotation marks.
3. **Pen Pals:** Write a letter to a character from you. Then, have that character write a letter answering back in the voice of the character (using words they would use and saying things they would say). Each letter should be at least one page, and the letter from the character should include two quotations from the book. Please put the quotes in quotation marks.
4. **Epilogue:** What could happen after the story is over? Write a two page summary of a sequel to the book. Describe the main characters and tell what the plot would be-- make sure to refer to what happened in the book.

Whichever option you choose, have fun with it! Your project is due on the first day of school—**AUGUST 18th!!!**