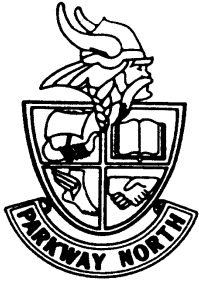


ENGLISH DEPARTMENT



PARKWAY NORTH HIGH SCHOOL

12860 Fee Fee Road
St. Louis, MO 63146
314-415-7654
FAX 314-415-7634

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

Debbie Banashek-Twist
Jennifer Bannecker
Mark Bannecker
David Beck
Jeffrey Church
Allison Cundiff
LuAnn Fallahi
Heather Fleming
Scott Kreher
Megan McCorkle
Melissa Lynn Pomerantz
Tracy Silvagnoli
Wendy Surinsky
Valerie Townsend

May 14, 2018

Dear Class of 2022 Honors Student,

Welcome to the Honors English program at Parkway North High School. Our honors program is a rigorous and challenging one, but also an interesting and rewarding experience. We look forward to building on your middle school learning and helping you become better writers and students of literature.

Sign Ups

Please sign up for the following account as soon as possible. We would like to be able to communicate with you over the summer to send reminders and answer any questions you may have. Please sign in to **Google Classroom** by going to <https://classroom.google.com>. Sign in with your school Google account, and join the class by clicking "Go to Classroom" and then "+" to add a class. **The class code is a2upp.** When you add the class, it should then say "Honors English 1 Summer, 2018."

1) Writing Sample

Your first assignment for +English 1 is to write an introduction of yourself as both a person and a student. Please use MLA format for a multi-paragraph piece that is no longer than 3 pages and addresses the following prompts:

- What kind of student are you? Why are you taking Honors English in particular?
- Discuss a book that you have enjoyed in the past. How does this reflect you as a person?
- If you have a poem, song or play that impacted you, tell us about that as well! (Do this in addition to a book please, not instead of.)
- Tell us about some of your other characteristics and interests outside of academics to help us get to know you as a person.

Please submit your written introduction to Google Classroom no later than Friday, August 10. (Yes, this is **before** school begins! You may submit it earlier as well.) We want to start to get to know you even before we meet face to face!

2) Reading Assignment

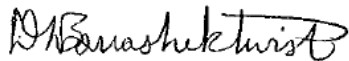
We will begin the year with a Short Story unit to introduce you to the kind of reading and annotation you will be doing in the Honors English program. However, our curriculum is quite full, and once we finish the opening unit, we will move immediately on to the novel *To Kill A Mockingbird* by Harper Lee. This is an enjoyable read about two children growing up in Alabama in the 1930s. You will read the novel as a whole on your own, which will allow us to "hit the ground running" in a meaningful way with the larger issues of this text. **You must complete your reading of the novel by Monday, September 10.** Be prepared to take a test in class on that day to assess your meaningful comprehension of the text. It will also be the subject of discussion and our first major writing assignment.

We highly encourage you to read the novel over the summer when you have more time. *If you choose to do this, be sure that you have some method for remembering the novel when we come back to it.* You may want to take notes within the actual book, jot down summaries at the end of each chapter, or use some other method that has worked for you in the past. As a preview, some of the issues we will be working with are education, parenting, courage, empathy, and racism, so you may want to keep these in mind as you read.

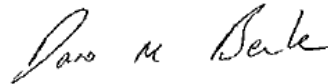
We also encourage you to obtain your own copy of *Mockingbird* and the other works we study so that you can take notes in them and begin building a library of great books. You will also have them for review during your senior year should you decide to take the Advanced Placement exam in Literature. *To Kill a Mockingbird* can be purchased online or at any bookstore. (Half Price Books is a great option!) There are multiple editions of *Mockingbird* currently available, but if possible, please purchase ISBN number 9780446310789. If you choose not to purchase your own copy of Lee's novel, you may borrow one from your local library or contact Mrs. Banashek-Twist prior May 24 to make alternate arrangements to obtain a text. During the school year, it is important to have the convenience of similar page numbers to your teacher's text. You can buy all future books we read at a 20% discount at our bookstore, which also assures you common page numbers with our class.

Remember that you should submit your introduction to Classroom no later than Friday, August 10 (though you are welcome to submit it earlier in the summer!). In the meantime, enjoy the novel, and do as much reading and writing as you can over the summer! We look forward to meeting you in August!

Sincerely,



Mrs. Banashek-Twist
dtwist@parkwayschools.net



Mr. Beck
dbeck1@parkwayschools.net
