May, 2014

Dear

Over the past few weeks, we have been reviewing your child’s progress in Reading, English and Language, Arts. Based on multiple data points and teacher feedback, your child’s Reading, English Language Arts class for next year will be RELA 7 Honors.

In RELA 7 Honors, students will take an advanced approach to developing communication skills through critical reading, writing, speaking, and listening, as set forth in the Pennsylvania Core Standards. Students will read, respond, analyze, and interpret a variety of literature, including, but not limited to, works of fiction, nonfiction, drama, and poetry. Students will demonstrate their in-depth comprehension and analytical skills through a variety of written genres and oral presentations. Students will be challenged to demonstrate their learning in innovative ways through the use of technology and project-based assignments.

Rigorous PA Core Standards will be the basis for the curriculum, utilizing the Grades 7 & 8 learning progressions. The SpringBoard Pre-AP resources will be used as the foundation, as in all English classes. Students in honors classes will:

- Read texts at higher lexile levels, and explore texts in a more in-depth manner, utilizing pre-AP strategies from both their current grade level and resources from the next higher grade level.
- Meet writing expectations based on PA Core Standards learning, progressions, and pre-AP criteria.
- Develop strong college-readiness work habits such as independent study, long range assignment management, and increased reading and writing quality and quantity.
- Complete mandatory course and enrichment readings outside of class.
- Explore the role of literature in the world outside of the classroom.
- Learn and apply more sophisticated course-specific vocabulary.

If you have any questions or concerns, or if you do not wish your child to be placed in the RELA 7 Honors class please contact your child’s building principal or Dr. Suzanne Laverick-Stone, Assistant to the Superintendent.

Sincerely,

Principal