



May 17, 2017

Dear IDEAL Families:

It has been a pleasure partnering with you and sharing in your children's moments of personal and academic growth throughout the year. It is hard to believe that we are already looking ahead to the 2017-18 school year.

**The summer work developed by our English department is designed to cultivate our students' love of reading, curiosity, and background knowledge.** This year, we have adopted the practice of a Community Summer Reading book - a shared book to be read by all High School students - to bring our division together through intellectual discourse. There are two parts to the High School's summer reading assignment:

1. **Community Summer Reading Book:** All High School students will be reading *Frankenstein* by Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley. This classic horror story addresses concepts such as the ethics of modern science and the desire to break free from assigned gender and class roles. This novel is also available in many formats and at a variety of reading levels. **We will be providing students with the appropriate copy of *Frankenstein* before the end of the year.**
2. **Two Books from List:** In addition to *Frankenstein*, we are requiring all High School students to select and read two books from the attached list. **Students may purchase their books, read electronic or kindle versions, or borrow from the library.**

Students should be prepared for discussion about and writing assignments on *Frankenstein* beginning the first week of school. Students should also complete the attached reading log to keep track of the books they read from the list of choices, as well as any books they read on their own, and be prepared to discuss their two additional selected books upon their return in the fall. In individualized cases, we will be reaching out shortly with a differentiated reading list.

**The math department's summer work is designed to give students ongoing practice at the appropriate skill level.** The department is requiring students to complete at least six hours of online math work, based on your child's current level, over the summer. Students will each be provided with a math log to record their math work. Karin Wolff, the Director of Technology, will be in touch on June 15th, with the your child's current IXL level, usernames, and passwords.

We wish everyone a relaxing and wonderful summer, filled with adventures and lots of laughter. Please work with your child to help with the selection of books and with the pacing of reading and math assignments so that it does not become overwhelming. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Best,  
JT and Emily