

April 12, 2011

Dear Parent(s):

We are thrilled to be in our fifth year of the summer reading program. As you know, Peotone CUSD 207U is a special place, a community that values an attitude of learning. To emphasize the importance of that, we have a summer reading assignment in grades 6-11. We hope to inspire the youth of our district to become active, life-long readers; therefore, students are required to read at least one book over the summer. If students are in advanced placement, there will be additional readings.

Reading is a critical skill to practice and master across the curriculum. The summer reading program encourages our students to read actively during the vacation in an effort to mitigate the loss in reading skills that research shows takes place during the summer months. This will help ensure students come back to school prepared to learn and achieve.

In order to make the program accessible and convenient for parents and students, we will supply the novels at a discounted rate, which will be between \$4.25 and \$11.20. If the parent opts to purchase the book from the school district, the books will be available at the Connor Shaw Center, Peotone Junior High School and Peotone High School at the end of the school year. Parents may also choose to use the library or other retail bookseller to obtain the approved novel. Each of the surrounding libraries has been contacted and will have the novels available. In addition, English teachers will distribute a study guide with questions that will be graded. Upon returning from summer break, each teacher will spend a couple of days reviewing the novel. **Students will be tested, and this will become each student's first grade for the first quarter.**

Students will have an opportunity to read or work on study guides under a teacher's supervision during the following date over the summer. This optional session will be held at Peotone High School in the Media Center on Tuesday, August 9, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Students must enter the Media Center through the west doors.

In closing, we are excited about continuing this program here at Peotone CUSD 207U and hope you will encourage your son(s) and/or daughter(s) to actively participate in this program. Listed are several suggestions for ensuring the success of your student in this endeavor.

- Read the book with your son/daughter
- Have discussions about the novel
- Set a schedule and provide a specific time & place for reading
- Register your child for a library card to open opportunities for reading

If you have any questions about this program, please feel free to contact me at Peotone High School, (708) 258-3236. Also, see our school website and click **Curriculum Department and scroll to Reading** for more information. You will be able to download study guides, find resources for family activities, and view the guidelines.

Sincerely,

Paul Preuss