

Dear Class of 2024,

I am excited to be your Humanities teacher for the 8th grade! Next school year, we will immerse ourselves in U.S. history, culture, and literature. In the meantime, enjoy the summer by taking care of yourself, spending time with family and friends, and of course, a bit of reading and writing.

Please purchase a copy of *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton early in the summer break. Any copy is acceptable.

Please complete the following assignments (due on the first day of school):

Please read S.E. Hinton's, *The Outsiders* , and use the following guide for annotation:

1. Circle/highlight at least one word *in each chapter* that needs to be defined. Use context clues to define them in the margin of the book.

2. Underline at least two lines/phrases of writing that is striking in imagery in *each chapter*. Identify what device(s) is being used in the margin of the book. Pay close attention to the motifs of "sunsets" and "staying gold."

In addition to reading and annotating *The Outsiders*, write an alternate ending to the novel in the same style of Hinton, which means first-person, detailed characterization, and a strong voice/style. You may pick up from any point of the story to write your alternate ending. The ending should be typed, 12 point font, double spaced, and 1-2 pages in length. This will be printed in class and turned in the first week of school.

I look forward to seeing you all after a well-deserved break!

Best,

Michelle Yi Martin