

4515 Hanson Rd.  
Madisonville, KY 42431  
March 7, 2012

Dear Parent/Guardian,

This letter is to inform you that your son/daughter is required to complete an Independent Reading Assignment (IRA) this trimester. Your son or daughter has all of the information for the assignment and I encourage you to sit down together to look over this project and to **carefully** examine the novel choices together before making a decision. I have provided your son/daughter with a list of books from which to choose; s/he must choose one novel for this semester. Because some of the books may be considered controversial, I would like for you and your student to look over the list together before s/he selects a novel by the selection deadline of \_\_\_\_\_.

This assignment is a bit more rigorous than simply reading a novel and writing a book report or taking a multiple-choice - plot-recall test. It will take forethought, time, and planning. This project, however, is not due until \_\_\_\_\_, allowing your son/daughter ample time to complete the project. I suggest encouraging your child to begin as soon as possible, as this project will be completed solely on their own, without class time.

Because your son/daughter is responsible for procuring these novels, I want to provide you with a list of websites, bookstores, and libraries (see reverse) so that you may help your son/daughter decide where s/he should get the novels. Although I am not requiring that the students purchase the texts, I am **strongly** encouraging them to do so; I believe the project will be easier for them if they can write notes in their books, “dog-ear” pages, and place post-it notes throughout the text – things they would not be able to do with a borrowed copy of the novel. This type of “close reading” is part of the AP strategies and will be a valuable skill for your child throughout high school and college.

Please sign below, with your son/daughter, stating that you have received the information about this assignment and are aware of its involvedness. Return the signed portion to me via your student by \_\_\_\_\_. If you have *any* questions and/or concerns about this assignment, please do not hesitate to call me at school between 7:00a.m. and 8:40a.m. (270-825-6017) or e-mail me.

Thank you,

---

**\*\*\*Complete and return this portion to the teacher by \_\_\_\_\_.**

By signing below, I verify that my son/daughter has brought this assignment to my attention and I am aware of its involvedness and importance.

\_\_\_\_\_, Parent Signature

By signing below, I verify that I have informed my parent/guardian(s) about this Independent Reading Assignment and all that is involved.

\_\_\_\_\_, Student Signature

# Resources

## Websites:

- ✓ [www.booksamillion.com](http://www.booksamillion.com)
- ✓ [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com)
- ✓ [www.half.com](http://www.half.com)
- ✓ [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)
- ✓ [www.walmart.com](http://www.walmart.com)

## Stores:

- ✓ Wal-Mart
- ✓ Readmore (in our mall)
- ✓ Barnes and Noble (Evansville)
- ✓ Books-a-Million (Owensboro)

## Libraries:

- ✓ MNHHS Media Center
- ✓ Hopkins County Public Library
- ✓ Dawson Springs Branch Library

## Audio Books:

- [www.Audible.com](http://www.Audible.com)
- [www.librivox.org](http://www.librivox.org)

## Free Online Sources of Classic Literature:

- [www.gutenberg.org](http://www.gutenberg.org)
- [www.books.google.com](http://www.books.google.com)
- Kindle, Nook, & iTunes have many free classic books as well!!