



ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER

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April 27, 2016

Dear Student and Parent or Guardian:

Welcome to the Glendale Union High School District! As you finish your eighth grade year, we hope you are looking forward to the opportunities awaiting you when you enter high school in the fall. We are sure that once you become part of your new campus, you will find new friends and exciting ideas that will help you grow both personally and academically.

To encourage academic excellence, all nine high schools in Glendale Union offer students the opportunity to earn extra credit for freshman English during the summer. Attached you will find an optional assignment that our high schools have developed for any of the books on the following list:

*All the Light We Cannot See* – Anthony Doer  
*Boy in the Black Suit* – Jason Reynolds  
*Conversion* – Katherine Howe  
*March Volume 1 & 2* – John Lewis  
*Nimona* – Noelle Stevenson  
*Red Queen* – Victoria Aveyard  
*Ripper* – Stefan Petrucha

Should you wish to complete this optional assignment, you will be eligible for extra credit points in your freshman English class.

Research clearly demonstrates that students who read outside of school settings more quickly develop critical thinking abilities, expand their vocabularies, and become better writers – all skills that will help you find great success in high school. Students who remain academically engaged through summer reading also maintain a higher learning level, not needing as much time in the fall to “catch up” with the high school routine of reading and completing homework.

Examine the book list, and review the questions that you will address when school begins as part of the optional assignment. The questions are available on your school website under Academics > Summer Assignments. You may check the book out from the public library, download a copy from the public library from OverDrive, or purchase a copy. Your freshman English teacher will have specific instructions for you when high school begins on **August 8, 2016**.

Enjoy your summer – and enjoy these good books!

Sincerely,

*Demetria Graham*

Demetria Graham

Support and Training Curriculum Coordinator

*Empowering All Students for the Choices and Challenges of the Twenty-First Century*