



EAGLE MOUNTAIN SAGINAW ISD

Fostering a Culture of Excellence

Dear Families,

Thank you for a great first six weeks filled with wonderful discussions, insights, and stories! Watching our students' imaginations come alive on paper and in the classroom was an encouraging and exciting way to start the year, and we know they will only continue to grow as readers and writers.

This unit places a great deal of emphasis on developing stamina and building comprehension in independent reading. The students will spend a significant amount of time reading self-selected texts on their own. Students will learn strategies they need to succeed as readers through teacher modeling of close reading, shared texts, shared reading, and small group discussion. They will apply close reading strategies to a multitude of literary texts (fiction, poetry, and drama) with an emphasis on point of view, character development, setting, and the effect each of these elements have on literary theme. In this unit students will focus on pivotal moments in the characters' lives, the perspective in which events are told, sensory details, and/or historical context used to develop the theme. Students should explore a variety of literary texts, beginning with a close examination of drama before moving to other genres. Through their writing, students will evaluate how the author uses specific literary devices to develop the meaning of the work as a whole. Students will also write for a specific purpose, genre, and audience to effectively convey inferences garnered from the readings. They will choose a writing structure, craft introductions and conclusions, find and support a universal theme, revise for organization of ideas, and edit for conventions.

During the second six weeks, our students will have two writing assessments that will be given before and after each writing unit. Teachers will continue using these assessments to drive instructional decisions, measure growth in writing, and to evaluate their students' ability to transfer the skills that have been taught to independent writing tasks. The first writing assessment will be administered at the beginning of the unit (10/3-10/7) and the second writing assessment will be administered at the end of the unit (10/31-11/7). The second assessment will be graded using a common standards-based rubric. Students will also complete a common reading assessment in the middle of the unit (10/19-10/26).

Please continue to review your student's performance via Skyward Access, and contact his or her teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

EMS-ISD 10th Grade ELA Teachers