



EAGLE MOUNTAIN SAGINAW ISD

Fostering a Culture of Excellence

Dear Families,

We are already half-way through the school year! Thank you for a wonderful first semester, and we are encouraged and excited for an even stronger second semester.

During this unit students will focus on deep comprehension and analysis of dramatic and poetic texts. They will focus on interpretation and inferencing, paying close attention to how sound, structure, and imagery affect the author's message or theme, and how the author develops point of view of the narrator or speaker in a fictional or poetic text. Students should be skilled (or in the process of becoming skilled) in reading with an awareness of the craft moves that authors make to achieve a specific purpose. This unit of study will also lead students to be more independent in essay writing. Students should draw upon previous learning about strategies for elaborating on their ideas such as stretching ideas, adding details and facts, and adding anecdotes and examples. They will have an introduction on STAAR writing, focusing on how to apply the skills they've acquired this year to a high-stakes testing environment.

We are quickly approaching the STAAR test. As such, students will complete the district tenth grade benchmark during the week of January 30. Students will have two writing assessments that will be given before and after each writing unit. The first writing assessment will be administered at the beginning of the unit (1/17-1/24) and the second writing assessment will be administered at the end of the unit (2/13-2/20). The second assessment will be graded using a common standards-based rubric.

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