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Dear Parents and Students,

In an effort to enhance reading, Cabrini High School's English department requires that all incoming 9th grade students read a summer reading novel. Read the following book on your own:

English 9 students will read The Chocolate War (Robert Cormier)

Honors English 9 students will read Fahrenheit 451 (Ray Bradbury).

On the first full day of class you will be given a novel test. The test could include trigger words, theme statements, character snapshots, quotations and/or multiple choice or true/false plot questions. This will count as the first grade in your English class.

Following test day, your teacher will lead further discussion and activities, so please be prepared to discuss the novel in class.

While reading, it is *recommended* that you take notes about the following content:

1. **Setting:** Record description of both place and time. As you read chapter to chapter the setting will change - record the changes.
2. **Characterization:** As you read pause to write down each new character introduced. Note on your paper the character's appearance, personality, and connection to the plot.
3. **Symbolism:** A symbol is a concrete object that reveals a more significant insight. Write down all objects that possibly have a symbolic meaning and are important.
4. **Conflict:** There are many conflicts, both internal (within the character) and external (between characters), within the story. As you read, track the conflicts.
5. **Theme:** A theme in literature is discussed after reading the text. The theme is the predominant universal lesson of the novel.

These notes cannot be used on the test nor will they be collected; they are for your benefit to study/recall the facts of the novel.

The Cabrini High School English Department