



# Warren Consolidated Schools

*Creating Dynamic Futures through Student Achievement, High Expectations, and Strong Relationships*

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## STERLING HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL

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May 19, 2023

Dear Honors English 9 Parent, Guardian, and Student,

Congratulations! Your son or daughter is registered for an Honors 9 English course for the 2023-2024 school year. It is my pleasure to welcome each student into the honors course selections for Sterling Heights High School. This letter is our first opportunity for dialogue/discussion about a few expectations for the upcoming summer as well as fall assignments and objectives.

First, the Honors English 9 course will require a higher degree of literary and writing skills than the general education English course. While the English Department courses work with the same Common Core Strands and fundamental curriculum choices, an honors level course is traditionally a faster-paced, more-in-depth study of literature and writing. This course is designed to help students become skilled analytical readers of nonfiction as well as other genres and engage writers in a variety of modes and rhetorical contexts. Students will learn fundamentals of writing through process, be given multiple opportunities for constructive criticism, and will develop skills for revision, proofreading, and editing. In short, your son or daughter will not only become a resourceful reader, but a proficient writer.

Secondly, students are expected to be self-motivated, mature, well-behaved individuals who are ready to work conscientiously and diligently for all class work. They will learn to think critically about the assigned reading/writing, to accept constructive criticism, and to revise and edit his/her writing. In an honors level course, students should already understand and be able to apply a proficiency level of usage with Standard English grammar and rhetoric. Students will continue development of grammar and rhetoric skills throughout the year. Communication through written expression is vital for academic and career readiness. To further communication skills, students will be exposed to different types of presentation formats. Multiple presentation experiences in the classroom allow students to transcend from anxiety to confidence in his/her verbal and visual presentation skills. Oral presentation is a requirement for students at this level, as well as group communication skills.

Third, an important goal of this course is to prepare students for college level courses such as Honors 10 English, AP English Language and Composition, and the AP Literature course. This course will begin to cover the expectations for standardized test-taking and offer several strategies for success. At this level, students will be taking practice tests such as the PSAT to help prepare and predict future academic needs. Daily skill practice activities emphasize critical test question processing and help students practice vital strategies for successful skill-based assessment.

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### In order to prepare for next fall, each student must complete several tasks over the summer:

1. Reading
2. Writing
3. Close and Critical Reading Activities

It is recommended that each student print the **two** short stories for the Close and Critical Reading Activities. The longer readings do not need to be printed and can be read from a computer or other electronic device.

**\*\*\*\*\*Assignments will be accepted on the first and second day of school only.\*\*\*\*\***

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Summer Homework outline:

- Sign up for Remind
  - Use your **full first and last name** when completing sign up --No Nicknames or code names!!
  - Text this number 81010
  - This message: @2324eng9
  - Or use this link: remind.com/join/2324eng9
  - Remind will be used for summer updates and general reminders for assignments
  - Student may also communicate with me via text with the remind app
- Go to <http://rriley.weebly.com/>
- Click on Honors 9 Summer Work
- “The Gift of the Magi” by O. Henry
  - Print & Read
  - Complete C&C Reading Worksheet
  - **Hand write** answers to questions in complete sentences.
- “The Necklace” by Guy de Maupassant
  - Print & Read
  - Complete C&C Reading Worksheet
  - **Hand write** answers to questions in complete sentences.
- “The Most Dangerous Game” By Richard Connell
  - Read
  - Write all five (5) Focus Questions
    - Follow Focus Question Sentence by Sentence format – Found on web page
    - See sample FQ on web page & Follow MLA Formatting
    - Type in Google Docs and Share with me at [Rriley@wcskids.net](mailto:Rriley@wcskids.net)
      - Title documents: Last name, First Name FQ# \_\_\_\_ (1-5)
      - I will provide feedback on 1<sup>st</sup> shared Focus Question if shared by August 10.
- Parts of Speech Grammar Review
  - Only need to print the exercises
  - Read and review the rules
  - Complete the exercises

\*\*\*\*\*Assignments will be accepted on the first and second day of school only.\*\*\*\*\*

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Please discuss the demanding nature of this course with your student to confirm that he or she is prepared for a faster paced, more in-depth course. Please feel free to contact me by phone/text at 586.459.0566 during the school year or by e-mail at [rriley@wcskids.net](mailto:rriley@wcskids.net) (I will check my e-mail periodically during the summer). I look forward to working with your son or daughter next year.

Sincerely,



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