Dear Students, Parents and Guardians:

In an effort to encourage students to read and think about historical and/or current issues over the summer, the social studies department has prepared a list of summer assignments for students. Students should complete the assignment designated for the course they are enrolled in for September. (Book descriptions are adapted from Amazon.com.)

**Global History 9R, 9H and 10R**

**Task:** Create a current events portfolio on the issue of GLOBAL HEALTH. Students must create a portfolio that consists of four (4) summaries of news articles that are due on Thursday, September 4th (do not select articles about the United States). The full assignment can be accessed on the social studies home page [http://highschool.gardencity.k12.ny.us/departments/social_studies](http://highschool.gardencity.k12.ny.us/departments/social_studies).

**Rationale:** The purpose of the assignment is to encourage students to stay abreast of current events and issues and also advance the goal that they be informed citizens. By reading nonfiction/informational texts and responding to issues in the news, students will strengthen their reading, writing and thinking skills – all goals of the Common Core Learning Standards.

**Assessment:** The summer reading quiz grade will be based on the portfolio, participation in the class discussion and an in-class assessment that will be administered on Friday, September 5th.

**AP World History**

**Book:** Students enrolled in AP World must read *I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban* by Malala Yousafzai

**Rationale:** A contemporary work details Malala Yousafzai’s fight for her right to an education in Taliban controlled Pakistan and her journey into the international spotlight as a peaceful advocate for women’s education. The book focuses on human rights and the power of individuals to affect change – both key themes to the AP World History curriculum.

**Suggestions:** A reading guide is posted on the social studies home page [http://highschool.gardencity.k12.ny.us/departments/social_studies](http://highschool.gardencity.k12.ny.us/departments/social_studies); it is recommended that students complete the guide.

**Assessment:** Students will participate in a class discussion about issues related to the power of government and rights of citizens; they will take a test on Friday, September 5th.
US History 11R

**Book:** Students enrolled in US History 11R must read ONE of the following books *First Crossing: Stories About Teen Immigrants* by Donald R. Gallo or *Funny in Farsi: A Memoir of Growing Up Iranian in America* by Firoozeh Dumas.

**Rationale:** Immigration is a major theme throughout the US history curriculum. Both books give students insight into the experiences of immigrants who have recently come to the United States. Students will consider what it means to be ‘American’ and the extent to which immigrants are able to achieve the American dream – and at what cost.

**Suggestions:** A reading guide for each book is posted on the social studies home page [http://highschool.gardencity.k12.ny.us/departments/social_studies](http://highschool.gardencity.k12.ny.us/departments/social_studies); it is recommended that students complete the guide for the book they choose to read.

**Assessment:** Students will participate in a class discussion about issues related to immigration and will take a quiz on Friday, September 5th.

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**AP US History Assignment**

**Reading:** Over the summer, students enrolled in AP US History must read excerpts from *A Short History of the United States* (Remini) and *A People’s History of the United States* (Zinn) The Zinn excerpt is posted online at: [http://highschool.gardencity.k12.ny.us/departments/social_studies](http://highschool.gardencity.k12.ny.us/departments/social_studies); copies of the Remini excerpt were provided to students in June – extra copies will be in the main office and the social studies office.

**Rationale:** The readings selected represent college level texts that constitute outside reading for many American History survey courses. The content featured in this assignment will serve as an important part of the early units covered in the course. Additionally, the readings provide students with the opportunity to see two different treatments of comparable material; one from the more traditional, objective approach, the other from a more subjective, opinion driven model.

**Assignment:** Carefully read the excerpts. Students are required to take notes in Cornell style while they read. Directions for taking notes are available with the reading packet and on the department website.

**Suggestions:** As with any assignment of this length, students are best served by completing it over the course of the summer. Taking Cornell notes while reading will not only help students to remember the information better, but will provide an excellent resource when preparing for the exam in September.

**Assessment:** Students’ reading notes will be reviewed on Thursday, September 4th and will be counted as an assignment grade. There will be an in-class test on Friday, September 5th on the content of the reading; it will count as the first test grade of the first marking period.
AP Human Geography

Book: Over the summer, students enrolled in AP Human Geography must read *Confucius Lives Next Door: What Living in the East Teaches Us about Living in the West* by T.R. Reid.

Rationale: The book provides a unique perspective on Japan and its 2,500 year old Confucian tradition, and the role it has played in Japan's postwar “social miracle”. Additionally, the reading focuses on many of the themes covered throughout the year including: culture, religion, development, migration and globalization.

Suggestions: Students are strongly encouraged to take notes as they read. The notes will serve as an excellent resource when preparing for the discussion and the exam.

Assessment: Students will participate in a book discussion and on Friday, September 5th they will have an in-class test. Participation in the discussion and the score on the exam will result in a test grade for the first marking quarter.

AP Psychology:

Book - Over the summer, students enrolled in AP Psychology must read *Opening Skinner's Box: Great Psychological Experiments of the Twentieth Century* by Lauren Slater.

Objective: The book is a wonderful introduction to many of the themes and experiments that will be covered in AP Psychology. The author has written a highly accessible introduction into the world of psychological experiments and every chapter is from the AP Psychology curriculum (and often included on the AP exam). Many ideas from this book will be referred to over the course of the entire year.

Assignment/Suggestions: Students should read the first eight chapters by the first day of school and be ready to discuss what they have read. (A reading guide can be accessed on the social studies home page -- click on the AP Psychology summer reading link [http://highschool.gardencity.k12.ny.us/departments/social_studies](http://highschool.gardencity.k12.ny.us/departments/social_studies).) YouTube videos are also required and will assist in understanding of each chapter.

Assessment: There will be an in-class test on Friday, September 5th on the content of the reading; it will count as the first test grade of the first marking period.

AP European History

Book: Over the summer, students enrolled in AP European History must read *Candide* by Voltaire.

Rationale: The book provides a literary and philosophical perspective on the European Enlightenment, and the fundamental features of the Voltairean view of the age. Additionally, the reading focuses on many of the themes covered in the study of the Enlightenment, as well as the reaction against it in the Age of Romanticism.

Suggestions: Students are strongly encouraged to take notes as they read. The notes will serve as an excellent resource when preparing for the exam.

Assessment: There will be an in-class test on Friday, September 5th on the content of the reading; it will count as the first test grade of the first marking period.
AP United States Government (12th grade course)

Book: Over the summer, students enrolled in AP United States Government must read *Hardball – How Politics Is Played Told By One Who Knows The Game* by Chris Matthews.

Objective: Students will gain insight from one of the foremost political commentators of the modern era about the game of politics as it is played today. *Hardball* gives students insight into what he sees as the modern day rules for politics, illustrated with examples from Washington.

Suggestions: Carefully read the book and take notes on the fourteen rules of politics and the examples presented by Matthews.

Assessment: There will be an in-class quiz on Friday, September 5th on the content of the book.

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AP Macroeconomics (12th grade)

Book: Over the summer, students enrolled in AP Macroeconomics must read *Naked Economics: Undressing the Dismal Science* by Charles Wheelan.

Rationale: This book demystifies key economics concepts, laying bare the truths behind the numbers, without any graphs and charts.

Assignment: Students must answer a series of questions as they read the book -- they will be posted on the social studies home page [http://highschool.gardencity.k12.ny.us/departments/social_studies](http://highschool.gardencity.k12.ny.us/departments/social_studies).

Assessment: There will be an in-class test on Friday, September 5th on the content of the reading; it will count as the first test grade of the first marking period.

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Regents level 12th grade Government/Economics

Task: Students will read, annotate and summarize articles that will introduce them to contemporary political and economic issues. Please click on the Economics/Government link on the social studies home page to access the articles. [http://highschool.gardencity.k12.ny.us/departments/social_studies](http://highschool.gardencity.k12.ny.us/departments/social_studies).

Rationale: The purpose of the assignment is to encourage students to stay abreast of current events and issues and also advance the goal that they be informed citizens. By reading nonfiction/informational texts and responding to issues in the news, students will strengthen their reading, writing and thinking skills – all goals of the Common Core Learning Standards.

Assignment/Suggestions: Summarize each of the selected articles, identifying the who, what, when, where, why and how of each article. In order to prepare for the class discussion, students are encouraged to jot down their reaction to each article.

Assessment: The summer reading quiz grade will be based on summaries of the selected articles, participation in the class discussion and an in-class quiz that will be administered on Friday, September 5th.
This reading list has been sent to the Garden City Public Library and Barnes and Noble. Although the books are available at the library, we encourage students to purchase a copy of the book they select; this will enable them to actively read (take notes, underline and highlight) their books. These strategies will enable students to make meaning of the text, to identify parts they would like to discuss in class and to prepare for an in-class assessment.

In September, students will discuss the books in class and all assessments of summer reading will be administered on September 5th.

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<tr>
<th>New York Times Summer Reading Contest</th>
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<td>For the fourth year in a row, the NYT is sponsoring a summer reading contest. Each week from June 13 to Aug. 15, teenagers (13 to 19 years old) are invited to select ANY piece in the NYT they like and explain why it interested them. Each week a winner is selected! If your child is interested in participating in the contest, please visit the NYT website <a href="http://learning.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/05/01/our-fifth-annual-new-york-times-summer-reading-contest/">http://learning.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/05/01/our-fifth-annual-new-york-times-summer-reading-contest/</a> for more information.</td>
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Thank you for your continued support. Have a safe and happy summer.

Regards,
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