

English Department
May 1, 2016

Dear 2016-2017 AP English Literature and Composition Student,

In order for us to hit the ground running in August—and we will be running!—it is imperative that each and every one of you complete the following Summer Reading and Writing Assignment to the best of your ability. Let's start the year off on the right foot—by displaying what talents and skills you already possess in English. This exercise will become your first graded assignment of the 2016-2017 school year. **Every part of this assignment is due the first day of school. NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR CREDIT.**

1. Read and think critically about *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini. A PDF of this book appears on the school's website.

2. Write a typed 3-4 page essay in response to **one** of the following AP-style prompt:

- In many works of literature, past events can affect, positively or negatively, the present actions, attitudes, or values of a character. Identify a character in Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner* who must contend with some aspect of the past, either personal or societal. Then write an essay in which you show how the character's relationship to the past contributes to the meaning of the work as a whole.

OR

- A symbol is an object, action, or event that represents something or that creates a range of associations beyond itself. In literary works a symbol can express an idea, clarify meaning, or enlarge literal meaning. Reflect upon Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*, and focusing on one symbol, write an essay analyzing how that symbol functions in the work and what it reveals about the characters or themes of the work as a whole.

Don't leave this assignment until the last minute. High quality work is rarely done at the last minute. Give yourself ample time to think, read, re-read, draft, revise, revise again, and make the final product you turn in to your teacher a true indication of your potential.

With best wishes for your summer,

Ms. Patty Santella and Ms. Angelica Lopez

If you have questions as you are reading, we invite you to e-mail us: psantella@nlcphs.org or alopez@nlcphs.org