REQUIRED All-School Summer Reading and Writing Assignment:

1. Read *Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe* by Benjamin Alire Saenz
2. Write a letter that will be randomly delivered to another high school student on the first day back at school. In your letter, you should:
   a. Introduce yourself, your year in school, your hobbies, interests, and anything else that you think is important for others to know about you
   b. Share about what you did this summer, from relaxing to travel, camps or quiet time at home, describe how you spent your time out of school
   c. Talk about something that you look forward to this year, including any classes, or social events, or life experiences on the horizon
   d. Ask a question or two that the recipient of your letter could answer in a letter back to you.

OPTIONAL 9th Grade Readings and Activities:

1. Read *The House of Purple Cedar* by Tim Tingle
2. Go to an art museum and sketch what you see
3. Go see a play and write a brief commentary
4. Use an atlas or map to chart your summer trips

OPTIONAL 10th Grade Readings and Activities:

1. Read *1066: The Year of Conquest* by David Howarth
2. Go see a play or symphony or opera, and write a brief commentary
3. Write a poem or an ode
4. Write or record a travelogue about a place you visited

OPTIONAL 11th Grade Readings and Activities:

1. Read *Zero: The Biography of a Dangerous Idea* by Charles Seife
2. Go see a play, symphony or opera and write a brief commentary
3. Read a daily newspaper for a few consecutive days
4. Speak to someone in a different language

OPTIONAL 12th Grade Readings and Activities:

1. Read *Brunelleschi’s Dome: How a Renaissance Genius Reinvented Architecture* by Ross King
2. Watch a Ted Talk and write or record a commentary
3. Go visit an architectural site and write a descriptive essay of your experience
4. Go to the symphony, opera or theatre and write or record a commentary