

Summer Reading Projects for Students Entering Freshman  
English/Fall 2009  
Mrs. Shirlane Yannuzzi

Dear Students:

This summer you will be reading the novel, **The Rocket Boys**, by Homer Hickam. This is a mandatory project and is worth a full test grade when you return to school in September.

The novel is an exciting one about rockets, science, families and growing up. The purpose of this novel is to show that not only can you dream a dream, but you can also LIVE the dream.

Follow the directions for the project on the attached pages.

**This project must be typed.** The project is due on Monday, September 14, 2009. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** You have the entire summer and if you divide it up over July and August, it will be a very easy assignment.

**PARENTS:** Please review and discuss this project with your son/daughter and sign below. Have them return this with the finished project on September 14th. That way I will know that you were aware of the requirements. Thanks for your help!

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

Directions for Completing the Summer Reading Project –  
Freshman English

1. Go to the library, bookstore or an online source (Amazon, Borders, Barnes and Noble) and get the book, **The Rocket Boys**, by Henry Hickam.
2. Read it! (Divide up a little bit each week so you aren't scrambling around at the end of August!)
3. Write a one paragraph summary for each chapter in the book **INCLUDING THE EPILOGUE!** (Do this while you are reading the book and it will be a snap.) Each paragraph must be 3-5 sentences in length.
4. Write a 3 sentence description of the following people/things in the novel:
  - a. Homer Hickam
  - b. "Sonny" Hickam
  - c. Elsie Hickam
  - d. Miss Riley
  - e. Mr. Turner
  - f. Sputnik
  - g. Quentin Wilson
  - h. Roy Lee Clark
  - i. Jimmy O'Dell
  - j. Willie Billie Rose

Each description is worth 5 points. (50 for all ten) and the chapter summaries are worth 50 points total. (There must be a paragraph for EACH chapter!) Remember that the summaries are **AT LEAST** three sentences in length.

Have a great summer. See you in September.