Summer Reading Assignment 2020
AP English 4 Governor Livingston High School
Mr. Crane/Ms. Gismonde

The Reading
1. Read *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*, by Thomas Foster. This book is widely available and can be purchased on Amazon.com, both new and used copies. (Make sure to purchase the correct text. There is also a newer book out by Foster, *How to Read Novels Like a Professor*. The book you will need to read is *How to Read Literature Like a Professor.*)

*Read this book first.*

*HTRLLAP* is an engaging, interesting and often amusing guide to help students understand the overarching themes, symbols, motifs, allusions, and literary devices authors employ when crafting a work of imaginative literature. The book will act as the foundation for literary discussion throughout the year. *HTRLLAP will* help students become close readers in AP English and in all their college literature classes, enabling them to identify and appreciate recurring themes, symbols, and allusions in literary works.

2. Choose one novel or play from the following list and read that selection. These three texts have been included on the College Board’s AP English and Literature Exams.

*Read this text second.*

**Reading Choices:**
- The Kite Runner
- Waiting for Godot
- Pride and Prejudice

The Writing
1. Write a 1 ½ page paper applying the ideas from one of the chapters in *HTRLLAP* to the novel or play that you read. For example, the green light in *The Great Gatsby* is a symbol for hope and promise and Gatsby’s dreams for the future. One of the chapters in Foster’s book is about symbols in literature; therefore, if you had read *The Great Gatsby* your paper could apply that chapter to the novel. Since this is a short essay do not apply more than one of the chapters in Foster’s book, though several might apply. Make sure your paper is in MLA format and be prepared to submit a hard copy of it on the first day of school. Late papers will lose ten points for each day that your paper is late.

2. Be prepared the first week of school to write a 40 minute in-class essay about the novel or play that you read. The essay prompt will be provided in class.

Teachers will be checking email periodically over the summer. Students with questions may contact his/her teacher over the summer, via email at jcrane@bhpsnj.org or lgismonde@bhpsnj.org.