Monday March 18, 2019

Dear parents and guardians,

This week in Reading, we will begin our social justice book clubs that will coincide with writing an informational research essay that explores a modern day stereotype. **Since topic, theme, and language maturity preferences vary by family, please take time to review the list of books your reader has chosen for their topic and sign indicating you support the choices your student made regarding their reading (see back).** *You may also wish to explore other titles from the list given to students in class or through your own research, then submit the title and author on the next page.*

**Please note that the ultimate goal is to allow our young adult readers to be a part of a collaborative book club that will allow for exploration of a social justice topic they are passionate about.**

Research shows that when students are reading with peers and collaborate about the text, themes, and reading life, students are more eager to read. When reading a text about a diverse topic that students are interested in, this also builds empathy for real life as readers make friends with characters from different backgrounds. As Nelson Mandela proclaimed, “Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

One of the main goals of English Language Arts Illinois Learning Standards is for students to critically study perspectives different than their own. Through reading, writing, discussing, and researching their chosen social justice topic, students will be able to expand their world view to see how others see the world differently than they do. Additionally, students will be developing vital critical thinking tools as a reader, writer, and citizen that will be crucial to becoming well educated and informed members of society. Therefore this book club will help readers answer the question: How do others see the world differently than I do?

As always, thank you for your support! If you should have any further questions, do not hesitate to reach out to me via email or phone. Lastly, I would strongly encourage you read along side your child by reading the same text and engaging in conversations about the plot, characters, and theme; I will be doing the same!

Sincerely,

Ms. Sara Pustz

7th grade Reading & Language Arts, Team 7 White

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Pustz-ELA

Book Club: Social Justice & Modern Day Stereotypes

After completing your book shopping in class, the library, and on Good Reads, list your top choices for books. Remember, you are NOT guaranteed your first choice because the goal is for you to be grouped with 1 to 5 of your peers who are interested in the same topic as you.

Essential question: How do others see the world differently than I do?

Topic: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

My TOP BOOK CHOICES:

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Consider the essential question. **What do you hope to learn about when reading this book?**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Parent/guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

**“Students who read more, know more. Students who know more are able to do more.” ~Carol Jago**