



EAGLE MOUNTAIN SAGINAW ISD

Fostering a Culture of Excellence

Dear Families,

The past six weeks have progressed quickly! As we begin the second six weeks, we are writing to provide a quick overview of the upcoming plans for Grade 8 ELAR.

During this six week period, we will expand our analysis of fiction to include novels and will examine the elements of poetry and literary nonfiction. We will begin crafting essays full of literary analysis.

Our second six weeks will include these big ideas:

- Interacting with texts through annotation, analysis, and comparison
- Analyzing the structure and elements of novels
- Examining the unique structure and elements in poetry
- Comparing and contrasting literary nonfiction and fiction
- Writing and editing literary analysis compositions guided by mentor texts

At the conclusion of our six weeks, students will take a districtwide ELAR assessment. This will help both the students and teachers assess needs and set goals for future growth in reading and writing skills.

We encourage you to talk to your child about what he or she is learning in class, and regularly review Skyward Access. If your child needs additional help, individual and small group tutorials are available before school; please check with your child's teacher for specific times.

You may also find the following online resources helpful to your child:

- Purdue Online Writing Lab: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/> This website offers a wide array of writing resources.
- Texas Library Association: <http://www.txla.org/> The Lone Star reading list is geared for middle school students.
- Additional resources are available on our district ELAR website: <http://www.emsisd.com/jvu>

Please feel free to contact your child's English teacher if you need additional information or have questions. Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to working with you to help ensure your child's success.

Thank you,

8th Grade ELAR Teachers
