

Dear Families,

We are already half-way through the school year! Thank you for a wonderful first semester, and we are encouraged and excited for an even stronger second semester.

This unit will focus on the importance of individuality versus conformity. Readers will analyze various works of art, poetry, fiction, and non-fiction to determine when if ever the individual should conform to their society. They will use their analyzation during reading to create a biography for biography.com over and artist or author from this unit to demonstrate how their life events and work portray individuality versus conformity.

During this unit, students will explore the timed expository essay as a new "genre" of writing. We will focus on including only pertinent, relevant information in a unique voice while maintaining the essay format that will be concise enough to fit into forty-five minutes. They will learn to draw upon previous learning about strategies for elaborating on their thinking and using evidence to support their claims—including stretching ideas, adding specific details, and using anecdotes and examples.

We encourage you to speak with your students about what they are reading, writing, and learning in class. Please be sure to review your student's performance via Skyward Access and contact his or her teacher if you have any questions or concerns. We look forward to working with you this year!

Respectfully,

EMS-ISD 7th Grade GT Humanities Teachers