



EAGLE MOUNTAIN SAGINAW ISD

Fostering a Culture of Excellence

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.

In this unit, students will read a variety of historical fiction texts to develop a deep understanding about the past to consider its impact on the future. Students will read these texts using their skills of inferencing and evaluation while also looking through multiple lenses as critical readers and thinkers. Students will consider various protagonists and their relationship with the setting, which, they will come to find, is often the clash between the protagonist's values and those of the time period. Additionally, students will examine minor characters to analyze their differing perspectives of the time period. Throughout the unit students will make connections between our current era and that of their novel.

We are quickly approaching the STAAR test. As such, students will continue to self-monitor their progress on the TEKS. Students will be writing several open ended-responses during this unit in which they will develop a solid claim, meaningful text-based evidence, and reasoning that extends their claim. These will be graded using a common standards-based rubric. Students will not have a district common assessment this six weeks due to the benchmarks and interim testing that occur during this time frame.

Please continue to review your student's performance via Skyward Access, and contact his or her teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

EMS-ISD 8th Grade ELAR Teachers