



# EAGLE MOUNTAIN SAGINAW ISD

*Fostering a Culture of Excellence*

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Dear Families,

Can you believe that we are starting the third six weeks? This year is flying by, but we have already seen our students growing as readers and writers. We cannot wait to see what other creations and insights they have in store for us.

This unit emphasizes developing stamina and building comprehension through book club reading. Students will compare and contrast purposes, attitudes, and themes across both literary and informational texts. By focusing on the words that tend to shift tone and meaning, students' awareness of the significance of word choice is heightened, and they become more vigilant and astute readers.

By the end of this unit, students will have written their own creative writing piece that reflects their understanding of author's craft and purpose. This task will support students in building their creative writing skills while also developing an analytical appreciation for the texts they read.

As with the previous six weeks, all ninth grade ELA students in EMS-ISD will take one common reading assessment and one or more writing assessments to monitor students' writing growth. Pre-AP students will also take a "Learning Checkpoint" formative assessment and complete a performance task as part of the College Board Pre-AP course. Teachers will use these assessments to drive instructional decisions and evaluate progress over the course of the year. These writing assessments create an opportunity for teachers to evaluate their students' ability to transfer the skills that have been taught over time when students write independently. This approach reflects our goal of nurturing great writers rather than simply producing great pieces of writing.

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 9th Grade ELA Teachers