



EAGLE MOUNTAIN SAGINAW ISD

Fostering a Culture of Excellence

Dear Families,

With only one more grading period remaining for this school year, we want to thank you for all of your support and encouragement! This has been a truly fantastic school year brimming with creativity, growth, insight, and maturity. By the end of this grading period, we will feel confident that your student will have the skills necessary to be successful in their future English classes.

The most effective way to prepare for STAAR Reading exam is to be a strong reader with the stamina to read longer passages and comprehend what is being read. The goal of this unit is to review the reading strategies that we have studied throughout the year and help students apply those strategies to in this unit. Students will accomplish this by studying fantasy and science fiction texts through independent reading and book clubs. This unit is also about helping students think in logical and flexible ways in a high-stakes testing environment; they will need to stay focused, synthesize information, and connect ideas across a variety of texts and genres.

As writers, students have experienced multiple genres, and it is time for them to showcase their growth this year by celebrating their writing. The most effective way to prepare for the revising and editing portion of the STAAR Reading exam is to be a strong reader that can quickly spot mistakes in writing. The goal of this unit is to review the revising and editing strategies that we have studied and apply those to the texts they will be crafting. Students will write letters and a fantasy fiction piece. Students will have the opportunity to apply everything they have learned as writers during this year.

During the final grading period, students will reflect on their growth as readers and writers as they review their reading skills and writing from throughout the year. They will produce a portfolio that includes all their writing and complete a written reflection. These reflections will be graded using a district-developed rubric. In addition, the students will also take the seventh grade STAAR Reading exam.

Although we are coming to the end of the year, students are still reading and writing daily. Be sure to check with them to hear about what is going on in class. Also, please continue to review your student's performance via Skyward Access and contact his or her teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you again for an amazing year.

Respectfully,

EMS-ISD 7th Grade ELAR Teachers