Summer Reading

Read *Warriors Don’t Cry*

By Melba Pattillo Beals

*Warriors Don’t Cry* by Melba Pattillo Beals is an autobiographical account of the integration of Little Rock’s Central High School in 1957 following the landmark *Brown v. Board of Education* Supreme Court case that ended the legal segregation of schools. Throughout the ordeal, Melba and eight other teenagers act courageously in the face of threats and violence, but refuse to back down.

*Warriors Don’t Cry* is, at times, a difficult but necessary reminder of the valuable lessons we can learn from our nation’s past. It is a story of courage and the bravery of a handful of young, black students who used their voices to influence change during a turbulent time.

Assignment:

Choose TWO from the following:

1. In what ways can the information in the book be applied to your life? Be specific in how it applies to your life. Provide a text example and page number of a quote that stood out to you that will help you remember.

2. Does the author have an overall purpose/message to the book? If so, what is it and how do you know this is the message? (central idea)

3. How does the book incorporate literary elements such as characterization, figurative language (metaphor, simile, etc.), and narrative? What effect do these elements have on the book?

4. What questions did you ask yourself about the text as you were reading? How did these questions help you understand the book? Did you find the answers to your questions?

5. What prior knowledge did you bring to the reading that helped you understand the book? Be sure to choose a specific part of the book to support your answer.

6. Are there any particularly descriptive images that stand out? What effect do these images have on the writers' purpose? Provide a text example and page number of the description.

Summer Reading (Alternative Reading Assignment)

Read *A Walk to Remember*

By Nicholas Sparks

*A Walk to Remember* is a fictional text by Nicholas Sparks that follows the relationship between high school students, Landon, and Jamie, the shy daughter of the town’s Baptist minister.

FICTION PROMPTS Choose TWO from the following:

1. What is the theme of the book? Provide a text example to show how you know this. Include the page number and explain how the example supports the theme.

2. What is the point of view of the story? How does this affect the story and what you know is going on. Provide an example that shows your point. Be sure to include the page number.

3. What is the main problem(s) that the characters must overcome? How was this problem resolved? Were you happy with the conclusion? Why or Why not? Use evidence from the text to support your reasons. Be sure to include a page number.

4. Do you think the characters/people and their problems/relationships are believable and realistic? Why or why not? Use evidence from the text to support your reasons. Be sure to include a page number.

5. What were the traits of the main character in the story? How did you know? (dialogue, actions, thoughts, description, reactions from other characters, etc.) Did the character learn anything by the end of the book? What different traits did they have at the end? How do you know? Use evidence from the text to support your reasons. Be sure to include a page number.

6. When did you get stuck while reading? What was confusing to you about your book? What strategies did you use to help you read better?