

ARCHER HIGH SCHOOL

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

The **Archer Reads** initiative is an effort to support our students as they continue to build their reading and writing skills. A central goal in writing instruction is to establish a reading habit in the busy lives of all our students. We hope to work together to help build avid life-long readers.

To build a love of reading this year, we are providing students time in Guided Study and in our language arts classes to read 'choice books.' Students have the opportunity to choose their own book to read during this time. Our goal is for students to find something that interests them and builds their joy for reading. As students grow in their reading capacity, they will begin choosing texts that are more complex, develop greater reading stamina, and increase their interests in a variety of subjects. Additional by-products of reading advancement include improvements in vocabulary, analytical skills, and writing ability. All of these benefits from reading will serve students well when they enter college and/or the workforce.

Books from all genres, both fiction and non-fiction, are available in the language arts library, teacher classrooms, and in the Archer media center. Students will have many opportunities to find books that suit their interests.

While a bit of sentiment exists that "students today won't read," we believe that students tend to be distracted by social media and/or become apathetic when the books they read do not capture their attention or interest. We contend that given the right book, our students will become much more interested in reading.

We are asking for your support in the Archer Reads initiative. Parents can talk with their students about what interests them, and help them find books that align with those interests. We respect your role as parents and the traditions your family may have, so if you would like us to more closely monitor your student's book choices, please let us know and we can work out a plan together.

Lastly, we ask that each parent sign below to give consent for their student to select 'choice books' during the school year. While all books available at Archer have been approved by the local school media committee, or by Gwinnett County Public Schools, some of the young adult titles contain more mature themes, and we would like to extend to parents the opportunity to withhold consent for their students to select books on their own. Please instruct your student to return the form to his/her guided study teacher.

Thank you for your support,

Archer Language Arts Department

Student's Name

Parent's Signature

GOOD SCHOOLS MAKE BETTER COMMUNITIES