

Dear Incoming Junior students and their Parents/Guardians:

In order to promote literacy and learning during the relaxing summer months, we, the faculty at Antioch Community High School, ask that each student reads a book assigned by the English Department. Reading is key to all academic success; therefore, the reading of this book will help prepare all students for their junior year in all subjects.

The book selected for incoming English III students is *It's Not About the Bike* by Lance Armstrong. The English Department selected this novel because it is a contemporary, non-fiction piece. We believe the students will find this book a captivating and informative read.

The book belongs to the student. Students, please write your name in the front cover and, as you read, annotate important passages you feel reveal insights into American core values and beliefs. You will be responsible for having read this material when you start English III in the fall.

After you finish reading and annotating the book, complete the following:

- In a typed, one to two page response, explain the obstacles that Armstrong had to overcome and the personality traits Armstrong exhibited that helped him overcome these obstacles (for example, stubbornness, perseverance, individuality, cooperation, etc.)
- Research another well-known American (athletes, actors, musicians, artists, politicians, TV personalities, etc.). Create a t-chart to compare/contrast this American to Lance Armstrong. Consider the obstacles each has faced, the successes/failures each has met, the personality traits each possesses and exhibits. Then use the t-chart to type a one page response comparing and contrasting Armstrong to your researched American.

The English III teachers will begin discussing this book on the first day of class, so students must complete the reading assignment before the start of school and bring it on the first day of class.

We encourage parents and guardians to read along with their students and engage in discussion. Thank you for completing summer work and advancing your education. If you have any questions, please contact John Whitehurst at [jwhitehurst@sequoits.com](mailto:jwhitehurst@sequoits.com) or visit our school website. Have a wonderful summer.

Sincerely,

ACHS English III Teachers