

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 portion one 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 Seminar students is *Nickel and Dimed* by Barbara Ehrenreich. The English Department selected this novel because it tells a thought-provoking, contemporary, and true story of a woman who tries to make a living as a low-wage worker in several different positions. The portion of the novel we are asking students to read revolves around her time as an employee at Wal-Mart, and her struggles both within her job at the retailer and with the life she must live on her meager earnings. 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 this woman's struggles to survive. You are required to read pages 1-10, which is the introduction that sets up the woman's experiment, and then pages 121-191, which covers her time at Wal-Mart. You will be responsible for having read this material when you start English III Seminar in the fall.

The English III Seminar teachers will begin discussing this book the first day of class, so students must complete the reading assignment before the start of school and bring it 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 Ms. Nagel at anagel@sequoits.com or Mrs. Herrmann at sherrmann@sequoits.com. Have a wonderful summer.

Sincerely,

Audrey Nagel and Sara Herrmann
ACHS English III Seminar Teachers