Dear Class of 2019 (incoming 8th graders):

Summer Reading

Reading keeps your mind active, it increases your vocabulary, it improves the fluidity and fluency of your speaking skills, and it makes you think. Some people love to read and some do not. Summer reading assignments are not meant as punishments. This assignment is meant to keep your mind sharp, allow the class to have some open discussion about common topics from the book, and allow me to see how well you comprehend the major parts of a story.

ONE BOOK ONE CLASS! The book you will read this summer is "Need" by Joelle Charbonneau.

One by one, the teens in Nottawa, Wisconsin, join the newest, hottest networking site and answer one question: What do you need? A new iPhone? Backstage passes to a concert? In exchange for a seemingly minor task, the NEED site will fulfill your request. Everyone is doing it. So why shouldn't you?

Your assignment is to write a Literary Letter to Mrs. Gulla about reading the novel. When writing a literary letter you can write anything about the book. It's not a book report, so don't spend time describing the plot. Talk about what struck you about the book. Make connections between yourself and the book.

A good literary letter will:

1. Paragraph 1: title, author, genre of the book. A BRIEF summary (5-6 sentences only)
2. Paragraph 2: Should include at least 3 of the following:
   Make connections; Discuss a quote with page number from the book; Explain an image through symbolizing; Make a characterization of any one character; Discuss a memorable event; Discuss the theme; Use examples of the literary terms you have learned in class.
3. Paragraph 3: Give a recommendation for the book and tell why you like or disliked it.

A small sample of a literary letter appears on the back of this paper. This assignment will be due in print on the first day of school! We will also use this novel for our first graded writing assignment.

Enjoy reading and have a wonderful summer! See you in September!

Love,

Mrs. Gulla