

Hello future AICE American History students!!!

Your summer assignment is as followed:

1. Purchase Team of Rivals by Doris Kearns Goodwin. This is a really good book once you get into it. Give it a chance and get to know the characters. That's really all I want you to be able to do. It'll make the whole first semester really fun when you understand the major players in history! Every major theme we cover for the first semester will be tied to this book and these first few chapters are the foundation. I want you all to love American History and I'm hoping Goodwin will inspire you the way I was inspired when I first read this book. Her style of history is to celebrate the amazing personalities in our past.
2. Read the first four chapters in Part I up to page 118. We will read the rest of it throughout the year.
3. Focus especially on the personality and political views of all the following characters brought up in these first three chapters: Abraham Lincoln, William Seward, Salmon Chase, Edward Bates, Frederick Douglass, Henry Clay, Daniel Webster, and Francis Blair.

Whose personality and political views do you like the most? The least? Your assignment is to assign each character above a letter grade based on their personality and political views and to write a 3-5 sentence argument for why this historical figure is deserving of the grade you assigned them. It can be any grade you want to give them. There are no right or wrong answers as long as you show good reasoning and evidence! The reasoning and evidence must come from this book, however, not outside research. This will be graded during the first week of school as a discussion and homework assignment.

4. I have a class set of Team of Rivals books that I will leave in the front office. If you want to check one out, be sure to sign it out in the sign out notebook by writing your name, the book number, and your phone number in the sign out notebook that will be located with the books.
5. I am looking forward to meeting all of you next year and am already excited about what we will be learning. Remember, American History is the foundation of everything happening around us in our country today. By the end year, I hope all of you will see our history in our present and develop into the American you were meant to be. Good Luck! :)