

Dear Parent(s),

Reading is a central focus in my classroom, and as we begin a new year, I would like to share some thoughts about reading with you.

Reading is a skill. The only way to get better at reading is to read—this holds true for excellent readers as well as reluctant readers. With this in mind, my goal is for your son or daughter to significantly increase his or her time spent reading. I would like to see each student read at least 30 minutes every day. I will do my best to motivate your student to read academically as well as for fun. Some of the reading will be assigned, but your son or daughter will have opportunities to select his or her own books to be read independently.

To help your child reach these goals, I have worked hard to develop my own classroom library (and continue to do so). This library is available to any student who wants to choose a book to be read recreationally. Research shows that availability of books is a major motivating factor in getting teens to read. Students who are surrounded by books at school and at home read more. Students who read more, read better. I believe having my own classroom library will dramatically increase the amount of reading my students do.

As a parent myself, I want you to know I am sensitive to having appropriate reading material in my classroom library. That said, what is considered “appropriate” may vary from one parent to another. Some parents do not mind their child reading Stephen King; other parents object to the horror genre. Please be aware that the selections in my classroom library, just like any public library, range from elementary-level to university-level reading material. As a parent, I ask you to remain aware throughout the

year to the books your child has chosen to read and assist in gauging appropriateness.

Rest assured the books in my classroom library are never assigned. They are checked out on a voluntary basis only. Some students use my library a lot; others find books elsewhere. Any student who checks books out of my library is asked to have a parent or guardian sign below, indicating this classroom library letter has been read and understood. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to contact me at alawson2@aisd.net. Let's get reading! Sincerely,

Mrs. Lawson

Please sign and return by Friday, August 16, 2019.

_____ Yes, I have read this letter, and my son or daughter has permission to use Mrs. Lawson's classroom library.

_____ No, I would prefer my son or daughter not have access to Mrs. Lawson's classroom library.

Parent Signature: _____

Date _____

Student: _____

Period: _____