Please sign below and return to your student’s new 2015-2016 English teacher the first week of school.

I have read the attached information regarding the English reading for summer and understand my student’s participation will help guide instruction for the beginning of the school year.

I have also approved my student’s choice of texts for their summer reading. They will be reading:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by (circle one) Michael Crichton

(book title) John Grisham

Student’s name (please print):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

You may also email your child’s text choices and sign electronically with your name and home or cellular telephone number where you can be reached, if you have access to an email account to: talexander@reyn.org.

**Assignment for the Michael Crichton or John Grisham novel**

Before you begin reading the text, make a journal entry of at least 200 words that describes what you know about the author, the text, or the topic(s) of the book. Consider the information available to you on the front and back cover of the book, on the inside of the book cover, and in any advertisements such as graphics or pictures on the cover. Also consider the title of the book and if you know anything about the author.

**PART ONE – ¼ of the way through the book**

At approximately ¼ of the way through the book, describe the following ***in complete sentences*** on a separate piece of paper:

Who is the protagonist?

Is there a clear antagonist? And if so, who is it?

In a minimum of 100 words, answer the following question:

Do some quick research about the author’s biography. Considering the life and knowledge of the author, where do you see those things coming to life in the characters and/or actions in the book?

**PART TWO – ½ of the way through the book**

Approximately half way through book, write a journal of at least 100 words describing where things are in the plot. In your discussion, include any recognizable or underlying themes the author presents through the characters or language or plot in the book.

Answer the following questions in complete sentences:

How have the characters developed? Are some now more intriguing than others? Have some fallen to the side or disappeared almost entirely?

In at least 100 words, describe what books or characters in film or literature the characters in the book remind you of or compare to? Where have you seen characters with similar or the same traits in real life or elsewhere?

**PART THREE – ¾ of the way through the book**

Prediction is one reading strategy that checks your ability to pick up on the author’s foreshadowing and clues about what is coming. In at least 100 words, describe how you predict the text will end? What will become of the characters in the end of the book? How do you know, or do you just “feel” it? What will happen with the elements involved in the story; for instance, will the laws or the science or the culture around the characters need to change if things end the way you predict?

**PART FOUR – at the end of the book**

No author puts pen to paper, or fingers to keyboard, without a reason. (You wouldn’t write this assignment if you didn’t have a grade involved, for instance.) So for an author to write an entire book, there is something they want to say or something they want us to know! In a minimum of 200 words, discuss the following:

Why did they end it the way they did?

What point is the author trying to make?

Why did the author write this book?