**Eighth Grade Summer Reading Assignment**

Students may purchase or check out a copy of *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind, Young Reader’s Edition* by William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer. Students should read the book and while reading, keep a dialectical journal. This journal will be due on Monday, August 10, 2020 and will be counted as a grade. NOTE: All entries must be typed and printed by the due date. Additionally, students will be assessed on the material in the book which will also be counted as a grade.

I look forward to meeting and working with each of you.

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**Assignment**: Keep a dialectical journal over the novel as you read it. The purpose of this journal is to capture your experience while reading the book. This purpose is lost if you wait to write your entries after you’ve already read it. The journal must be a minimum of 10 quotes with 10 responses. These entries should include responses from the beginning, middle, and end of the book.

* **Be sure to include page # and paragraph # with your quotes**. You may use ellipses for quotes longer than three sentences. For the purpose of this assignment, a “quote” is defined as a significant passage, which strikes a chord in you as a reader and as a human being, and is not limited to direct quotes/someone’s spoken words. (The paragraph # refers to that page, not the chapter.)
* **Your entries/responses should be written directly opposite of the quotes.** The purpose of the response is not just to explicate the chosen quote, but rather to offer relevant, telling details which exhibit your understanding of the text or show insight into human nature and themes apparent in the book. Overall, we are looking for intelligent dialogue, which displays evidence of synthesis and understanding about the text and its components.
* **Each response must be typed in complete sentences.** Use a minimum oftwo short paragraphs or one well-developed paragraph with relevant, telling details. Remember to have at least 10 quotes and 10 responses total.

**Dialectical Journal Example**

*Don’t focus on the word count, be analytical and show depth in your responses. Don’t just SUMMARIZE!!!! Prove a point and support it with examples from the book.*

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| **Quotes, passages, or sentences go on the left side with a page number.** Example from: *A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest Gaines “I was there, but I was not there.” (Page 1, paragraph 1). | **Your responses to those quotes, etc. go on the right side.** From this quote the author reveals the main character’s inability to make a clear connection with the here and now. He was physically there, but yet, he wasn’t mentally because he didn’t want to be. The issue he was dealing with was one that he wanted to separate himself from and ignore. By ignoring the actions in the courtroom, it shows that the main character is trying to divide himself from his family, his race and his community. Also from this quote it is obvious that the main character is going to have difficulties dealing with confrontation and the struggles of being a black man in the South during the 1940’s, the time in which this novel is set. (word count 118)  |