**11th and 12th Grade Summer Reading Assignment**

This year, all incoming 11th and 12th grade students will be participating in one whole-class read and one independent reading assignment of their choice. Our whole-class read will be Jon Krakauer’s *Into the Wild.* For their independent choice, students may select a text of any genre and style that presents one of the following themes:

Tradition vs. Innovation

Identity

Cultural Exchange

Family

For each of these books, students should answer the following questions. Be sure to support your answers with **specific examples from your text** and point out any significant similarities or differences in how your readings approach these topics.

1. How are we affected by texts in various ways?
2. How does the structure or style of text affect meaning?
3. How do texts offer insights and challenges?
4. How does the meaning and impact of a text change over time?
5. How to texts reflect, represent, or form a part of cultural practice?
6. How does language represent social distinctions and identities?
7. How to texts adhere to and deviate from conventions associated with literary forms or text types?
8. In what ways can diverse texts share points of similarity?
9. How can texts offer multiple perspectives of a single issue, topic, or theme?

For *Into the Wild*, please also answer the following question: Many have criticized McCandless’s choices, claiming they show arrogance and inexperience on his part, and claim Krakauer and others have romanticized his life. To what extent do you agree with these claims? Defend your answer **using evidence from the text.**