Hello Parents,

It's that time of the year when the students need to begin preparing for the Reading EOG. Over the years the Piedmont 7th Grade Language Arts Department has devised a system for studying that has worked for many of my students. Parents, you play a big part in the process by making sure the students are putting in about 20 minutes per night. Here is the plan that I call… "MINI MADNESS".

The students will be taking 12 "mini assessments". Each assessment has 6 questions that are geared towards the skills that will be assessed on the EOG. In order to pass, a student must get at least 5 out of 6 answers correct. If a student gets 4 or less they are required to complete online textbook tutorials that re-teach the skills. The day before the mini assessments the students will take notes on the topics. For example, the Mini Assessment #1 topics are chronological order, fact & opinion and main idea. They will take notes and review the topics tomorrow in class. On Tuesday they will take Mini Assessment #1 to see if they have mastered the skills. If a student does not get at 5 out of 6 they are required to complete the online tutorials on those topics.

ALL STUDENTS will be given instructions about how to access the tutorials in class on Monday, April 23rd. Just in case that information doesn't make it home (we know how that happens sometimes), here is what they need to do:
* Go to: https://my.hrw.com/
* Click on the tab "online textbook"
* Username – (all students should know their username)
* Password – (all students should know their password)
* Click on the tab "online textbook"
* Click on "student resources"
* Click "Assessment"
* Click "Level up tutorials"
* Click on "Types of Literature"

ALL STUDENTS WILL CREATE A USERNAME AND PASSWORD ON MONDAY.

I RECOMMEND THAT ALL STUDENTS GO THROUGH ALL TUTORIALS OVER THE NEXT 5 WEEKS (whether they pass the mini assessments or not). I recommend that each student complete 2 to 3 tutorials per night. By the time we get to May 25th they will have covered every possible topic that could be on the test. The most successful students in the past told us that making the tutorials a nightly routine was a major key to them feeling confident on the test.
It would be extremely helpful if you could make it a requirement for them to complete 2 or 3 tutorials per night. It should only take them about 20 minutes. Please reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns.

If the online textbook isn't working or if the tutorials are not opening up please try using a different server.

Listed below are the topics of the 12 mini assessments:

#1 ★ CONTEXT CLUES ★ FACT AND OPINION ★ RECALLING DETAILS ★ FIND THE MAIN IDEA	#7 READING A PLAY
#2 CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER	#8 THEME DRAWING CONCLUSIONS IRONY ANALOGIES
#3 AUTHOR'S PURPOSE PERSUASIVE WRITING (TESTIMONIAL) DRAWING CONCLUSIONS	#9 CAUSE / EFFECT
#4 DRAWING CONCLUSIONS MAKING INFERENCES FACT AND OPINION TONE (WRITER)	#10 COMPARE AND CONTRAST
#5 MOOD TONE	#11 POETRY FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE (REPETITION, RHYME SCHEME, ALLITERATION, SPEAKER VS POET, LIMERICK, HYPERBOLE, ONOMATOPOEIA, PERSONIFICATION, SIMILE)
#6 POINT OF VIEW (1ST, 2ND, 3RD, OMNISCIENT) MOOD FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE INTERNAL / EXTERNAL CONFLICT EXPOSITION, RISING ACTION, CLIMAX, RESOLUTION)	#12 MYTHS AND FABLES HISTORICAL FICTION INFORMATIONAL TEXT