Welcome to Bridge to College 12th Grade English. In this class our focus is on reading literature and nonfiction texts for a variety of purposes and writing analytically and argumentatively about these works. We will also spend a good amount of time in analyzing non-fiction books, articles, speeches, websites, and career-based information in an effort to help each student to be not only college-ready but also career-ready.

In an effort to kick off the school year on a positive goal-orientated note, the students will choose a fiction or nonfiction book which can be described as inspirational. This book can be from a coach’s point of view, someone from leadership or business, an inspirational leader, someone from the political realm, a celebrity, a writer, an academic success, etc. Find something that you can really sink your teeth into and be ready to share with your peers during the first week of school. Don’t wait until the last week before school starts – pick something early and enjoy it!

Please keep a set of post-it notes handy while you are reading your book. Use the post-it notes to write notes to yourself about inspirational sections of the book, so you can find those parts easily when you come to school in the fall. Think about inspirational quotes you would like to share with the class and use in your first pieces of writing.

Please bring your book marked with your post-it notes on the first day of school and be prepared to answer why this book was inspirational to you and how it affects your decision making process and goals for the future.

Suggestions (only suggestions, not required titles):

- *Long Walk to Freedom* by Nelson Mandela
- *The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership* by John C. Maxwell
- *I Can’t Accept Not Trying* by Michael Jordan
- *Coach Wooden* by Pat Williams
- *Next Generation Leader* by Andy Stanley
- *Think and Grow Rich* by Napoleon Hill
- *Drive* by Daniel H. Pink
- *The Power of Positive Thinking* by Norman Vincent Peale