

STEINWAY INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL 141Q

A NASA Explorer School

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Dear Future Students of 8S1, 8S2, 8E1, and 8E2:

Congratulations on all of your hard work and your entry into the eighth grade honors program! Students entering classes 8S1, 8S2, 8E1, and 8E2 are required to read *The Wave* by Todd Strasser **in addition to** *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins.

The Wave is based on a true incident that occurred in a high school history class in Palo Alto, California, in 1969. The powerful forces of group pressure that pervaded many historic movements such as Nazism are recreated in the classroom when history teacher Burt Ross introduces a "new" system to his students. And before long "The Wave," with its rules of "strength through discipline, community, and action," sweeps from the classroom through the entire school. And as most of the students join the movement, Laurie Saunders and David Collins recognize the frightening momentum of "The Wave" and realize they must stop it before it's too late.

The attached book report handout will be collected in September and counted as one of the first major grades of the marking period. It is also highly suggested that you take detailed chapter notes so that you can participate in classroom discussions based on the novel in September. Remember, as part of the honors program, you are responsible to read and turn in book report handouts for **both** *The Hunger Games* and *The Wave*.

Enjoy your summer...and happy reading!

Best,

The Eighth Grade Honors Teachers