Building Reading Proficiency:

Current data reveals that students need to continue practicing good reading habits over the summer so gains made over the school year are not lost. This reading course is designed for students who struggle in reading. It is a skill-building class based on each student’s individual areas of weakness. Using a variety of forms of data including MAP, EXPLORE, PLAN, and fluency tests, the teachers of this course will differentiate both whole class and individual instruction. For example, teachers might target vocabulary skill development by helping students identify context clues and word parts. They might target fluency and reading comprehension by teaching active reading strategies, and they might expand a student’s reading repertoire by helping students identify characteristics of a variety of genres. The texts for the course will include SSR novels for individual differentiation. Short pieces of fiction and non-fiction will be used for whole-class differentiation.

Open to: District 113 incoming 9th graders and current HPHS 9th and 10th graders in Double Period English, or with English Dept Chair approval.
Credit: 1 Elective Credit. It does not satisfy any graduation requirement.
Cost: $300 ($400 Out of District), 2 Terms, 6 weeks, half day.

Creative Writing: CANCELLED

This class will examine how a writer’s culture and formative experiences impact his/her writing. One component of the class will focus on the study of various writers whose works explore cultural identity. These works will be discussed from a thematic and stylistic point of view. Using these pieces as models, another part of class asks students to examine and write about their own experiences and analyze what they reveal about race, gender and privilege. Students at DHS who have completed Creative Writing may enroll in this course again and receive credit.

Open to: All students.
Credit: 1 General Elective Credit. It does not satisfy any graduation requirement.
Cost: $300 ($400 Out of District), 1st Term, 3 weeks, full day.

College Essay Writing WORKSHOP

Complete your college essays before homework starts piling on in the fall! This workshop, taught by English teachers, each with over 20 years of experience, will help rising seniors write their college essays. We will focus on the Common App, Coalition App, and supplemental essays. We will read and discuss sample essays and tackle this year’s prompts. Students will receive one-on-one assistance with everything from brainstorming ideas to completing stand-out essays that tell their unique stories. Bus transportation will not be available for this course.

Open to: Current Juniors.
Credit: None.
Cost: $100 ($150 Out of District). Choose either 1st or 2nd Term.