

To: All 2019-20 AP Environmental Science (APES) Students

READ THIS ENTIRE DOCUMENT.

From: Ms. House (your APES teacher) slhouse@pps.net

Welcome to APES! It is months away, yet I already look forward to our experience. Here are a few items you will need to pay attention to this summer in preparation for next year.

SAVE THE DATE: Opal Creek Field Trip Sunday, September 22 & Monday, September 23,

2019 This field trip is a building block for APES. We'll hike into one of the only remaining ancient forests in Oregon, stay the night in a cabin, take classes in forest ecology, night hike to Sacred Rock, and eat tasty food. I can't require you to attend because there is a cost, but all APES students go and I don't let the cost get in your way. Cost is \$55 per student (reduced to \$41.25 with science fees for students who need assistance - if you need more help, no worries, we'll figure it out). All APES students go on this trip, and all list it as a unique, memorable high school experience. Many even return to Opal Creek after they graduate.

Summer Assignment: All work assigned over the summer is designed to 1) help you walk into class more prepared for college-level learning 2) get you thinking about the environment and 3) knock out two chapters so the reading is more manageable before the AP exam. *This work is required but should not be too difficult.*

1) Check out a textbook (*Environment: The Science Behind the Stories, 5th edition*) **from the bookroom** this week or next. **Read:** We will read an entire textbook over the course of the year (don't worry, it's a good read and you'll learn a ton). This summer read two easy chapters:

- **Read Chapters 1 and 24** Both are pretty "light" reading, not too complex.
- **Take notes as you read.**
 - Choose the **note taking format** that works best for you - Cornell notes, sketchnotes (google image "science sketchnotes" to get ideas), outline, etc.
 - Use the **Objectives** at the end of the chapter to guide your reading.
 - Decide how you want to approach the **vocab** (flashcards? Quizlet? underline in your notes?).
 - We will look at each other notes the first week of class as we gear up for college-level reading so make sure you have something to share. No worries if your notes aren't fancy.

2) NATURE: Do this activity after you read Ch. 1.

- Get outside. It's summer. Go for a hike, work in grandpa's garden, build a fort in the backyard, go camping or fishing, visit a farmer's market, canoe, raft, take a beach walk, go for a long bike ride, visit the zoo, rock climb, swim in a river or lake, surf, or find a nature walk in Portland or whatever city you might travel to. This can occur either on a vacation or in Portland.
- Take a **selfie**. Make it fun. Or boring. Just do it. We'll share them Week 1.
- Choose **3 concepts or vocabulary words** from Chapter 1 or 24 and *connect them to your activity*. An example would be asking a farmer at the market if they use any renewable energy sources to farm. **Add these connections to your notes in some way.**
- You may do this activity with another student in the class but you each need to make your own connections.

3) MATH This item is OPTIONAL but highly recommended (attached packet). Decide if you need a

(over)

basic math review and proceed accordingly. If you skip this and then struggle with metrics later on I'll give you a hard time and you'll struggle to catch up. : /

- **Complete averaging, percentages, and metric units** this summer. Want to do the entire packet to get ahead? Sure!

Why math? Many "math-phobic" students have taken APES and done just fine, even passing the AP exam. It's not a huge part of the course, but most students need to do a little extra work to master these skills for data analysis. You're just getting a head start with the summer packet.

4) Find some **old grungy clothes** and shoes to keep in your locker. We are regularly outside, rain or shine, and you'll want a change of clothes handy. We'll find some park near Marshall to do our field work so it's good to be prepared.

Woop woop!!!

Stop by C-55 if you have any questions or concerns – I'm happy to help you get off to a good start. Go APES. :)
~Ms. House