Dear 11th Graders and Parents,

Please review this information and sign the bottom. I just want to make sure that we are all on that proverbial same page.

1. I rely extensively on my website [http://www.hudson.edu/hhs/kellerd/kellerd.htm](http://www.hudson.edu/hhs/kellerd/kellerd.htm). You can find it from the High School site. There are many resources there for you, including the monthly syllabus.

2. Students and parents should know the rules and expectations; they are on my website.

3. Students should get all required materials that are listed on my website. They are in the bookstore.

4. This is an American literature class. To begin the year, as an introduction to the ideas that pervade American texts, we will read passages from Joseph Campbell’s *The Power of Myth*. We will look at mythological and religious texts, including Native American stories and “Genesis” 1-3. We will also cover major works (plays and novels), including *The Great Gatsby*, *It's not About the Bike*, *Catcher in the Rye*, *The Crucible*, *Death of a Salesman*, and *Tom Sawyer*. We may also watch film versions of these books. As supplemental materials, I will include “Recitatif” by Toni Morrison and various poems by Maya Angelou, including “Phenomenal Woman,” “Equality,” “Alone,” and “Still I Rise.” Also included is “A Clean Well-Lighted Place” and “Old man and the Bridge” by Hemingway and “The Californian’s Tale” by Twain. I am also considering a variety of titles from current authors, including winners of various awards such as the O Henry Prize; I would also like to include newly published poetry. And, I sometimes share my own work. I will also bring in large numbers of newspaper, speeches, and magazine articles, past and current. Often, I will have students do research, which may include self-chosen and sometimes controversial topics. New for 2010-2011: I am adding two new dimensions to the class. 1.) I have compiled a Youtube video library that corresponds to our units; if you wish to preview these materials, please email me for a list of hyperlinks. 2.) I will be expanding the Postmodern/contemporary unit that we work on in the fourth quarter.

**Note:** I am sensitive to the fact that some parents have specific familial needs in terms of what literature they permit their children to read. If anything in the above list concerns you, or if you have any concern that you feel compelled to share, please address it on the back of this sheet.

Thank you.

Dana Keller

I understand and accept the above responsibilities.

________________________________
Student Signature

I am aware of this information, and understand that this letter serves as a permission slip for the study of all mentioned materials unless I have noted a concern on the back.

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Parent Signature