Hello Students and Families,

Welcome to the 2020-20201 school year! I am Kara Lycke, the IB English 3 teacher at RHS. I am very excited to teach this course and to work with all of you this year! As our situation at school and in the world continues to change, I will communicate regularly with you so we can be on the same page as much as possible in support of student growth and development as scholars and citizens of the world! Schedules are being finalized this week, but anyone signed up for IB English 3 will have me as their teacher. I have a lot of information to share with you, so please read on!

First, class will be run primarily through 2 electronic tools: MS Teams and my website ([https://karalycke.weebly.com](https://karalycke.weebly.com/)). My website is public, so you may view it whether you are a student or a family member. **Students**, you will definitely want to bookmark my website on your laptop so you have easy access to it. My website is always evolving in response to what we are doing in class. Please note that it is currently under construction with changes that happen daily. **Parents and guardians**, please feel free to peruse the site before school starts and throughout the year. **Students**, I recommend you use Teams through the app as it will provide the best performance. We will devote part of the first week of school getting started with these and other electronic tools we will need this year. Click on the calendar icon found on the left-hand activity bar to access your invitation to class meetings. This is how you will join your classes. The **daily schedule** can be found on my website’s Home page. As we are now distance learning, students are expected to **attend every class period every day**.

I have attached the **course syllabus** to this email. Please review it together and contact me with any questions. As you will see on the syllabus, there are multiple ways to reach me, but for the quickest response, email or text me. I am available most days (M-F) between 1:15 and 2:45 if you have questions, concerns, or, students, if you need extra support. Teams meetings can be scheduled with me for individual or small group meetings during this time.

**Juniors are scheduled to pick up their textbooks and Streams tomorrow**, Thursday, 8/20. When you get to the textbook room, you will see that there are two novels available for IB English 3, *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *The Great Gatsby*. We will start the year with these books, and you are welcome to take a copy of each. However, **I highly recommend that you purchase all the books listed on the syllabus** so that students can write in them and use them however they want for our study. You should probably pick up a copy of *To Kill a Mockingbird* tomorrow since you’ll need it right away. Then, you can switch to your personal copy once it arrives at your home. If purchasing your own books is a hardship for your family, please let me or Mr. Bowlby know, and we can help out.

Again, I’m very much looking forward to getting this year rolling! Please be in touch. Stay safe, healthy, and mask up!

All my best,

Dr. Lycke

**Kara L. Lycke, PhD**

*Richwoods High School*

English and Psychology Teacher

Illinois Central College Dual Credit Instructor

Educators Rising Club Sponsor

Dead Creatives Club Sponsor

Phone/text: 815-780-2451

Twitter: @KaraLycke  | Website: karalycke.weebly.com

School Phone: 309-693-4400  |  Fax: 309-693-4414

6301 N. University Street

Peoria, IL 61614  

****