

AP Physics C Mechanics Summer Assignment Instructions

Dear AP Physics Student,

Welcome to AP Physics C! As we look forward to an exciting year of physics, we are asking you to take some time this summer to read two books. You may choose which two books you read from those listed below. Each book has its own set of reflection questions for you to answer.

The first is called *Everything All At Once* by Bill Nye. It is a book that explores the art of problem solving and the best way to approach, not only physics problems, but any problem you encounter in your life. Bill's advice transcends the classroom and hopefully will help you approach this coming year with the right mindset to be successful.

The second book is called *Rise of the Rocket Girls* by Nathalia Holt. This book follows the lives of the people who helped shoot the first humans to space and gives the reader an intimate look into the history of one of the most famous NASA Labs – the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL). Most students taking this course are interested in becoming engineers. It's important that you know the history of the world you're interested in entering.

The third book is called *A Short History of Nearly Everything* by Bill Bryson. It is a comprehensive look at the sciences as a whole, and meanders through the history of how we know what we know. It can often seem, when learning science in school, they appear to be separate and unrelated. Nothing could be further from the truth.

The fourth book is called *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho. It is an allegorical tale describing one's inner truth and the ability to achieve your goals. A story about self truths, and the struggle to know oneself, it is a meditative and reflective work. Especially given the times we are living in, this book will hopefully help you process your reality.

All four books are available in multiple formats (book, audiobook, ebook, etc.) at various Loudoun County Public Libraries, and can also be purchased in various formats.

There are reflection questions assigned to each book for you to answer and turn in by August 26, 11:59pm. To access the reflection files and submission location, add yourself to the Google Classroom "AP Physics Summer Assignment 2020" using the code "vw2s5ii".

On the first day back at school, if we are in-person, there will be a graded discussion about themes from the books, and how you plan on succeeding this coming year given what you read and reflected on. If we are in an online format, a graded discussion forum will be held about the same topics at the start of the school year.

Enjoy your summer! We look forward to working with you this year!

Ms. Spytek & Ms. Srinivasan