



Seegerstrom High School

"A Fundamental School"

SANTA ANA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dr. Amy Avina, Principal

June 2012

Dear Parents and Guardians of Incoming Eleventh and Twelfth grade Seegerstrom Students:

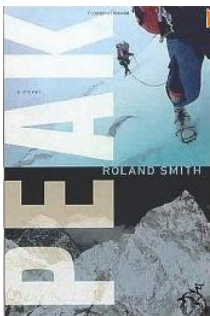
At Seegerstrom, our Instructional Focus is "Read! Write! Learn! Seegerstrom has always assigned summer reading to its students as preparation for their work in the fall. Literacy is emphasized throughout the curriculum. This year, we are assigning the same novel to each and every student in grades 9-12: Roland Smith's *Peak*. By ascribing to the "One Book, One Community" theory of reading, we hope to build a community over the summer in which students and staff alike experience the joy of reading a common title and are thus able to discuss the novel across the campus.

In an effort to keep your minds sharp and prepare your critical thinking and reading skills for English 11 or 12, we ask that students complete the following assignments.

ALL incoming students are expected read our schoolwide novel, *Peak* by Roland Smith. Students will complete an examination on this novel **by the fifth week of the first grading period** in September. This grade will be a significant portion of the first grading period assessments.

If you will be enrolled in Advanced Placement English Language and Composition (11th grade) or Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition (12th grade), please follow the directions given for that class contained in a separate letter. If you add this course late, please refer to the information on the school's website for additional reading requirements and assignments.

We are providing your student with a free copy of *Peak* right now. Please take care of this book. If your student loses or damages this copy, a replacement fee will be incurred.



The only thing you'll find on the summit of Mount Everest is a divine view. The things that really matter lie far below. – Peak Marcello

After fourteen-year-old Peak Marcello is arrested for scaling a New York City skyscraper, he's left with a choice: wither away in juvenile detention or fly to Kathmandu with his long-lost father. Peak quickly learns that his father's renewed interest in him has strings attached. As owner of Peak Expeditions, he wants his son to be the youngest person to reach the Everest summit. The story of Peak's dangerous ascent—told in his own words—is suspenseful, immediate, and impossible to put down.

Awards: ALA Best Book for Young Adults, ALA Quick Pick for Reluctant Young Adult Readers, New York Public Library Book for the Teen Age, Booklist Editors' Choice, National Book Award Winner, Junior Library Guild Selection

Sincerely,

The Seegerstrom English Department