Falls Church High School, English 12, English 12 Honors, and Dual Enrollment  
Summer Reading 2017

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) believes that learning does not end in June. All students enrolled in English 12 Honors during the 2017-2018 school year have a summer reading assignment. All students enrolling in English 12, English 12 Honors, and Dual Enrollment will read a memoir from the list below. The books are available at a public library or can be purchased from a local bookstore. One of the first assignments we will be working on will be a personal statement. A personal statement is a brief and focused essay about who you are as an individual. It highlights your strengths and accomplishments while outlining your goals and dreams. Personal statements are often required for college applications.

Part I

Students are encouraged* to read one of the memoirs listed below:

   Letter to my Daughter - Maya Angelou  
   The Color of Water - James McBride  
   The Last Lecture - Randy Pausch  
   Me Talk Pretty One Day - David Sedaris

*This a suggested list. If you find another memoir that interests you, feel free to read that one.

Part II

Compose a 500-750 word response that includes the following:

   A) A personal reflection about the memoir. Did you like it? Why or why not? What did you like or not like about it?  
   B) Make a connection between your own life and SOME element from the memoir. This connection may be to a character, an event, a theme, an idea, a lesson learned, etc.  
   C) This response will be used as the basis for your first major in-class writing assignment. The writing portion must adhere to proper MLA formatting (typed, double spaced, Times New Roman, 12-point font, header).