

METEA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

1801 N. Eola Road | Aurora, Illinois 60502 | phone 630.375.5900 | fax 630.375.5901
Principal: Dr. Darrell Echols • Assistant Principals: Dr. Quynh Harvey, Laura James-Schrader, Dr. Joy Ross • Athletic Director: Robert Lathrop



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To all students enrolled in AP Statistics 2015-2016 and their parents/guardians:

Congratulations on your decision to join the thousands of other students across the country that will be enrolled in AP Statistics in the upcoming school year! You have joined the growing ranks of students who recognize the need to take an introductory statistics course; as such a course is typically required of most college majors including the social sciences, health sciences and business. In fact, the number of students in colleges and universities who take a statistics class is almost as large as the number of students who take a calculus class.

Throughout the course of the year, AP Statistics will expose you to four themes: exploring data, planning a study, anticipating patterns and statistical inference.

To prepare you for this class, we require you to read one book from the list provided below:

Damned Lies and Statistics by Joel Best (ISBN #0520219783)

200% of Nothing by A. K. Dewdney (ISBN #0-471-14574-2)

The Average American by Kevin O'Keefe (ISBN #978-1-58648-270-1)

On the first day of school next fall, please be prepared to actively participate in a discussion of the book you chose to read. Notes or annotated texts will assist you in this discussion.

In addition to the summer reading book, we recommend that students purchase a Barron's AP Statistics review book to use throughout the course.

We will have a number of the four books above on hand that are used, for purchase for \$5. To purchase a used book, stop by E120 teacher office and ask for Mrs. Palmquist or Ms. Hendrix. If you choose to purchase a new one, it may need to be ordered, so please plan accordingly. The Aurora Public Library also has a limited number of these books available for your use.

Several other suggestions that are above and beyond:

Freakonomics by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner (ISBN # 978-0060731335)

Naked Statistics by Charles Wheelan (ISBN # 978-0393347777)

Outliers by Malcolm Gladwell (ISBN # 978-0316017930)

The Signal and the Noise by Nate Silver (ISBN # 978-0143125082)

We look forward to seeing you next fall!

Mrs. Palmquist, Ms. Hendrix, and Mrs. Penkala