We hope that you have enjoyed our fourth Annual Literacy Night. As you know, there is no greater gift to give our children than the gift of literacy. Your continual support of the home-school connection in fostering the academic, social and emotional growth of our children is paramount to your child's success in becoming independent and motivated young adults. We hope that you enjoyed the Close Reading Signpost activities and that they helped you understand how to assist your child in gaining a deeper understanding of text through close reading so that you can both think and talk about text in a variety of ways.

This brochure has been especially prepared for you to use as a resource. As you think of Peace, Love and Close Reading, remember all the benefits that reading closely has to offer.

It is with much gratitude that we acknowledge the members of the Literacy Night Committee for their unyielding passion and drive to plan this memorable event for our East Hills Family. Many thanks to our supportive PFA who have selflessly and graciously provided our children with a most memorable PARP Week. We are most grateful to Marci Weiss, Molly Goldberg, Deborah Marchlewski and Mariann Matarangas for chairing the week's events.

> Jane Alter Danielle Bailey Sandra Buscaglia Deborah Cooper Alyssa D'Elia Mondana Haghani Lora Jakowlew Ashley Kelly Carmen Krauss Melissa Krieger Nichole Lewis Karen Lucchese Jessica Moriarty Kimberly Murphy Stacie Rosenberg Meredith Simone Sandi Yarow Jodi Zambell



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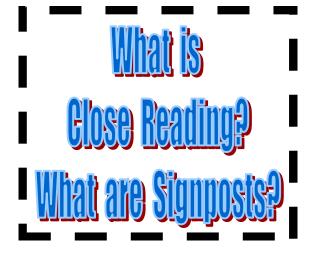


East Hills School Proudly presents



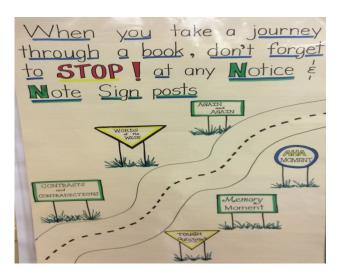
Peace, Love and Close Reading

## February 12, 2015



Close reading is close attention to the text: close attention to the relevant experience, thought and memory of the reader; close attention to the responses and interpretations of other readers and close attention to the interactions among those elements.

Signposts encourage close reading. They help to teach students to be alert for the features in the text that identify passages that merit close, intense, thoughtful analysis.



What are the Six Signposts

of Close Reading?

### • Contrast and Contradiction:

The point in a novel when a character's actions or thoughts clearly contradict previous patterns suggesting a change.

Aha Moments:

These are moments when a character's sudden insight or understanding helps us understand the plot's movement, development of the character or internal conflict.

### • Tough Questions:

The point in a book when the main character pauses to ask himself/herself tough questions. They give the reader insight into the character's development, internal conflict and possibly the theme.

### • Words of the Wiser:

This is the scene in which a wiser and often older character offers a life lesson of some sort. The lesson often emerges as the theme.

## • Again and Again:

An image, word or situation that is repeated. It might provide information about a character, conflict, setting or theme.

### Memory Moment:

A scene that reveals something important about a character, plot or theme.

# **Anchor Questions**

- Why would the character act or feel this way?
- How might this change things?
- What does this question make me wonder about?
- What's the life lesson and how might it affect the character?
- Why might the author bring this up again and again?
- Why might this memory be important?