**Book Club Discussions - Format and Expectations**

How often have you left a movie theatre after seeing a film with a friend and **not** talked about what you just saw? Book clubs or literature circles allow for that same valuable interchange, but about something we've actively read rather than passively watched. Talking with friends and peers about what we read enriches our experience with the book and helps us develop a better understanding of what we've read. We gain new insights into characters and events, come up with questions other readers may not have considered, and learn about ourselves and others through our unique perspectives and experiences.

* There are two basic expectations for all students regarding our book club discussions:

1. Each student will participate.
2. No one student will be allowed to dominate.

* There will be **three** scheduled book discussions in class.
  + 2 informal
  + 1 formal
* I will meet with each group as a "floating" participant.
* A sophisticated group participant:
  + comes to the group with a passage to read and discuss;
  + initiates conversation;
  + builds on others' ideas;
  + includes others in the conversation;
  + listens respectfully;
  + takes turns;
  + **makes text-to-self connections;**
  + **makes text-to-text connections;**
  + **makes text-to-world connections**."

(from *Grand Conversations, Thoughtful Approaches* by Faye Brownlie)

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