



Holy Name High School Summer Reading 2023

Sophomore Summer Reading List

Before the year starts, students taking **English II (120 or 125)** will be required to read **one (1)** work of literature.

Required Book-in-Common:

The Last Lecture - Randy Pausch

A lot of professors give talks titled "The Last Lecture." Professors are asked to consider their demise and to reflect on what matters most to them. And while they speak, audiences can't help but mull the same question: What wisdom would we give to the world if we knew it was our last chance? If we were to vanish tomorrow, what would we leave as our legacy?

Randy Pausch seemed to have it all: a loving wife, three children, and a successful teaching career. However, the one thing that he did not have was good health. At 46, he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. His doctor gave him three to six months to live. When Randy, a computer science professor at Carnegie Mellon, was asked to give such a lecture, he didn't have to imagine it as his last. But the lecture he gave--"Really Achieving Your Childhood Dreams"--wasn't about dying. It was about overcoming obstacles, enabling the dreams of others, and seizing every moment (because "time is all you have...and you may find one day that you have less than you think"). It was everything Randy had come to believe. It was about living.