The NewsMag Summer Assignment consists of three parts:
- Part 1: Experience in Creative Writing and News Journalism
- Part 2: Choose a Path
- Part 3: Issue Plans and Ideas

**Part 1: Experience in Creative Writing and News Journalism**

**Background and Purpose:** In order for both creative writing and news journalism to be valued by all members of the staff in our new publication, both Ms. Nieves and Mrs. McLemore feel it will be beneficial to gain experience in both of these types of writing.

**Directions:**
1. **Choose one creative literary magazine AND one newspaper to read and critique.** You may choose from any of the following options or find your own:
   a. **Newspaper:**
      i. The Washington Post
      ii. The New York Times
      iii. USA Today
      iv. The Atlanta Journal Constitution
      v. The Times
   b. **Creative Magazine**
      i. Creative Nonfiction
      ii. The New Yorker
      iii. The American Literary Review
      iv. Arts and Letters Daily
      v. The Waterstone Review
2. On a separate document, write the names of these publications and include your critiques beneath them.
   a. Each critique should be in paragraph format and together they should be no longer than two pages (12 pt Times New Roman font and Double Spaced with one inch margins).
   b. Each critique should include the following information:
      i. An overall review of the publication itself
      ii. Strengths of the writing
      iii. Weaknesses of the writing
      iv. Ways in which each style of writing could be incorporated into your own work
      v. Ideas for design and style of the newsmagazine based on design/style/layouts provided in each publication

**Part 2: Choose a Path**

**Background and Purpose:** While the future teacher sponsor of our organization will have the ultimate decision on which students works in which department, we do feel like it is beneficial for each student to choose a department about which they would like to learn more and in which they are interested in pursuing in the 2019 - 2020 school year. To that end, we also want the work you do in learning about this department to grow, inform, and inspire the work you do in the school year. **Therefore, we want you to pick ONE of the following texts which relate to the departments Ms. Nieves and Mrs. McLemore envision for the newsmagazine in the coming school year.**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Text</th>
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<tr>
<td>Leadership</td>
<td><em>Pour Your Heart Into It</em>, Howard Schultz</td>
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Directions:

1. **Choose ONE of the above texts to read over the summer.** If you cannot afford to purchase your own copy, please visit your local library or the school library in order to see which books may be available for you to borrow.

2. Read the table of contents and choose the top three most interesting chapters or sections to read over the summer. We will read the rest of the text over the course of the school year in order to keep our minds open and our ideas fresh.

3. Write a response to these three chapters. Each response should be no longer than 1 - 2 paragraphs. In the response, please complete the following tasks:
   a. Rate the effectiveness of each of the chapters.
   b. Discuss ideas you plan to implement from this text, including how and why you will implement these ideas.

4. Try it out! Write or create your own piece which exemplifies or demonstrates the ideas you have seen in the chapters you read. Examples are provided below for a few of the texts seen above:
   a. A list of the most important principles from a text
   b. A layout or spread
   c. A piece of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, or news article

**Part 3: Issue Ideas and Plans**

Background and Purpose: In order to make sure we are all able to hit the ground running, Ms. Nieves, Mrs. McLemore, or our new teacher sponsor wants to hear from you when it comes to ideas for new issues, themes, and other plans for our class. Though we can’t promise every idea will be used, all ideas will be read and considered. We feel this is a great way to start working together for a fresh class full of new ideas and perspectives!

Directions:

1. **Brainstorm ideas you have for issues of our magazine using the following information:**
   a. We plan to digitally publish a magazine each 6 weeks, 3 times a semester, and 6 times a year. Two of these issues will be print issues.
   b. Which types of articles or works should repeat in each issue?
c. What ideas do you have for feature(s) or news stories?

d. How can we create 6 different thematic elements so that each of our magazines is cohesive?

e. Anything else you’d like to consider!

2. In a separate document, write up your top 3 ideas for the newsmagazine. Make sure you provide enough depth and explanation for each one, including but not limited to: importance, positives, negatives, and the process which led you to this idea.