



Dear Incoming 6th Graders of BelovED's Middle School Class of 2025,

Congratulations! You have successfully met the criteria to advance into your 6th Grade year! This year will be an exciting time as you continue to make memories, but will also be one in which you begin to reflect on your journey here at BelovED and your goals for High School and beyond.

One of our primary goals is to develop lifelong readers and learners. Summer reading is an opportunity for you to practice the comprehension, analytical, and note-taking skills learned throughout the year while reading a thought-provoking and enjoyable book. **The selected book that all 6th graders will be reading is *Dragonwings* by Laurence Yep.**

*Dragonwings* is the story of a young boy named MoonShadow Lee as he grows up in China away from his father who went to America when Moon Shadow was incredibly young. When Moon Shadow is nine, he is brought to San Francisco, California to live with his father. While reading and taking notes, keep the theme of courage and wisdom through life's journey in mind. This text was selected to provide a common foundation and reference for your 6th grade year. Keep in mind that this assignment is a chance for you to put your best foot forward!

In conjunction with this reading, scholars will be practicing their annotation skills by actively taking notes on their reading using either a separate notebook or sticky notes. Students will have no additional assignment for the summer beyond reading and taking notes on *Dragonwings*. These notes will then be used as a resource on their **first test grade** of their 6th grade year which will be happening in their **Humanities A Class the second week of school.**

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to email me. We look forward to building on the foundation you have helped establish during the summer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate Piluso".

Kate Piluso  
Department Chair of Middle School Humanities  
BelovED Community Charter School  
[kpiluso@belovedccs.org](mailto:kpiluso@belovedccs.org) | P. 201- 630-4700