

Summer Reading for RBVHS English 9 Honors
Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck

To: Counselors, parents, and teachers of students enrolling in English 9 Honors
at Rancho Buena Vista High School

From: RBVHS English Department

We have selected the novel *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck, as summer reading for students enrolling in the English 9 Honors program at RBVHS in the fall of 2009.

When students begin school in the fall of 2009, they will be given an objective test as an assessment of their understanding of what they have read over the summer. They will also be required to write an essay addressing a prompt that focuses on the text. Students **may** use their text and any *handwritten* notes as a reference for the essay, but they will **not** be allowed any such help for the objective test.

We encourage annotation of the text and the development of a note-taking system: Cornell notes, journal entries, etcetera, that may help students retain information from the text and prepare them for the assessment at the beginning of the year.

Students may wish to check out *Of Mice and Men* from a public library or purchase their own copies. Purchasing a copy, if financially possible, is a recommended option, as students can highlight or write notes in the margins as they read. The novel may be purchased through *Amazon.com* or through Barnes and Noble bookstores.

Please direct any questions to Rancho Buena Vista English teacher Sue Butler at 727-7284 (72225).

We look forward to an exciting and rewarding year with you!