



THE PARK SCHOOL of BALTIMORE

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Last year, we piloted a new system for purchasing books: the English Department orders required texts through The Ivy Bookshop and charges student accounts directly.

This model helps us:

- Ensure students have books on the first day of class
- Guarantee that all students have the correct edition
- Order books as courses progress, giving teachers greater flexibility
- Better respond to the interests and skill levels of individual classes
- Support a locally owned bookstore

An additional benefit is that The Ivy Bookshop offers the school a 25% discount on all purchases, which we pass directly on to families. Park School does not add any surcharge to these costs.

Our pilot program, which included three English courses, was a success. Teachers were able to begin coursework immediately, students all had the correct editions, and families responded positively. As one parent shared, “These kinds of details are so valuable; it will also have a measurable impact on the carbon footprint of a bunch of Amazon trucks individually going to houses.”

Families may opt out of the program by ensuring their student brings the correct edition of all assigned books to the second day of class. If a student does not have the required books, we will assume the family is opting in, and the student account will be charged.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns. We believe this change will benefit students, families, and teachers alike.

Best,

Angela Balcita
English Department Chair