

Middle School Summer Reading Program

The goal of the BSS Summer Reading Program is to encourage and promote all students and families to find the time to sit back and enjoy a few hours to read. Students have the ability to make choices, to read at an ability level that is appropriate for them, and most importantly, to enjoy their reading.

In each grade, careful consideration was taken into account about a theme that is meaningful to their grade level. Students should read a book that encompasses that theme so that when they enter our doors in the fall, they have a commonality to discuss with their grade level peers.

It is expected that students will read a book connected to one of these themes; discovery, integrity, character, change, grit or perseverance. A list of books is included for each grade level; however, all middle school students may choose any book from the 6-8 list since many have shared themes.

It is through our summer reading this year that we are going to explore that possibility and the possibilities are endless.

- **Grade 6- Discovery/Change:** Students will make discoveries by meeting new teachers and new friends. They will even discover their lockers! Even more importantly, students will make discoveries about themselves: who they are as a student, friend, and learner.
- **Grade 7- Integrity/Character:** Grade 7 students will return to school and we will remind them about the importance of character development and having integrity.
- **Grade 8- Grit/Perseverance:** Grit is the sum of determination, courage, and refusal to allow obstacles to stand in the way of goals. Students entering their final year in middle school learn that while things are not always easy, success and goals can be reached with grit and perseverance.

Grade 6 Summer Reading

"You must be the change you wish to see in the world." - Mahatma Gandhi

A list of possible texts are listed below, but feel free to add to this list if you wish or explore one from the grade 7 & 8 list.

- *Number the Stars*, by Lois Lowry
- *Stargirl*, by Jerry Spinelli
- *The Last Shot*, by John Feinstein
- *Heat*, by Mike Lupica
- *The Boy on the Wooden Box*, by Leon Leyson
- *The Brooklyn Nine*, by Alan Gratz
- *Esperanza Rising*, by Pam Munoz Ryan
- *Among the Hidden*, by Margaret Peterson Haddix
- *Paperboy*, by Vince Vawter
- *Brown Girl Dreaming*, by Jaqueline Woodson

Grade 7 Summer Reading

"Character is doing the right thing when nobody's looking. There are too many people who think that the only thing that's right is to get by, and the only thing that's wrong is to get caught"- JC Watts, Politician

A list of possible texts are listed below, but feel free to add to this list if you wish or explore one from the grade 6 & 8 list.

- *Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life*, by Wendy Mass
- *Zen and the Art of Faking It*, by Jordan Sonnenblick
- *Listening for Lions*, by Gloria Whelan
- *The Wednesday Wars*, by Gary D. Schmidt
- *The Ballad of Lucy Whipple*, by Karen Cushman
- *Counting by Seven's*, by Holly Goldberg Sloan
- *Wonder*, by R.J. Palacio
- *Stella by Starlight*, by Sharon Draper
- *Walk Two Moons*, by Sharon Creech
- *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*, by Mildred D. Taylor

Grade 8 Summer Reading

"What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us." -Ralph Waldo Emerson

Please choose one of the books from the grade 8 "Grit" summer reading list below or one from the grade 6 & 7 list.

- *The Fault in Our Stars*, by John Green
- *Paper Towns*, by John Green
- *Geeks*, by Jon Katz
- *Gathering, Blue* by Lois Lowry
- *Cinder*, by Marissa Meyer
- *Elephant Run*, by Roland Smith
- *The Uglies*, by Scott Westerfeld
- *The Absolute True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, by Sherman Alexie
- *The Breadwinner*, by Deborah Ellis
- *Freak the Mighty*, by Rodman Philbrick

Grades 6-8 Reading Projects: Projects will be done at the start of the school year. Students should plan and prepare, but the project is not due at the beginning of school. Enjoy reading your book and be prepared to explore your project once we return to school.

- **Piece of Artistic Expression:** If you are artistic or good with your hands, create a painting, sculpture, diorama, or other visual media object connected to your book.
- **Comic Book:** Create a comic book using the plot of the book you just read. You don't need to include every little detail, but all the main events and main characters should be covered. The project should include at least 10 different frames. Your comic book should be illustrated in color.

- **Movie Trailer:** If you think the book you just read would make a great movie, create a movie trailer to show to the class. It should be 2 minutes in length and you should be able to show the final product to the class.
- **Prepare a Book Report:** You may use the following template to help you prepare a three to five paragraph report on the book of your choice:

Classic Book Report

As you read your book, use the boxes below to take notes about your book. Use your notes to write a 3 to 5 paragraph essay about your book. Your 3 to 5 paragraph essay must be typed or neatly printed in blue or black ink. Remember, a paragraph has 5 sentences.

Title of Book:	Author:
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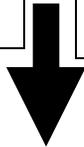
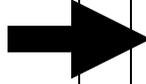
Setting:

Conflict or Problem:



Characters:

Conclusion or Resolution:



Your Opinion about the book:

