

WOODLAND PARK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

853 McBride Avenue, Woodland Park, New Jersey 07424

June 10, 2020

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

The intent of summer reading is to encourage the habit of lifelong reading. Summer is a great time to explore new authors and topics! Students are encouraged to read all different genres and forms of written expression including newspapers, magazines, fiction, historical fiction, biographies, non-fiction and poetry. There is no limit on what a student can read this summer---Just Read!



At school, your middle schooler learned about our summer reading assignment from his/her Language Arts teacher. *Incoming Memorial students* will read one required book from a short list and one free choice book. Students will complete a written assignment for one book. For this task, students will record notes in the form of a "Double Entry Journal."

- Students will select their first novel from the list assigned to their grade's theme.
- Then students will complete annotations in their Double Entry Journal notes as they read. These will be scored using a rubric. More specific details and examples will be shared on the Summer Reading links on the district website.
- Students will select a second text (ANY GENRE) and read for pleasure. During the first week back, be ready to do a book talk. No written assignment is required for the second text.

The completed written assignment is due to your Language Arts teacher on Monday, September 14th. The Double Entry Journal assignment will be counted as a quiz grade for the first marking period. Your journal entry will be used for a writing assignment in the fall.

Memorial Middle School students are encouraged to join the Alfred H. Baumann Public Library's summer reading program, *Imagine Your Story*. Many exciting incentives are planned for students who participate! Students who join will be able to track their reading. The HOUSE team that reads the most will be awarded points at the start of the school year. The Top 3 students who read the most in each grade will also earn a special prize! So make sure, you READ, READ, READ!

Students may purchase their own books or borrow from the public library. Please visit the school website at www.wpschools.org. This will give you access to print the assignment, directions, and suggested book lists. We appreciate your support!

Educationally yours,

Elba Alves Castrovinci
Supervisor of Language Arts

MEMORIAL MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER READING 2020



Double Entry Journal Directions:

- On a separate paper, create a two column chart for the summer reading selection from the list provided for your grade.
- Label the left hand “Citation.” In the “Citation” column, record the page number and cite the quoted passages that seem significant to the book’s central theme or situation. Citations can be quotes or narration from the text. Include citations from the beginning, middle, and end of the novel.
- Then label the other column “Significance.” In this column, record your thoughts or reactions about the citation in your OWN words. Please see the example below.
- Use the examples and resources to assist you.
- Format for Quiz Grade:
 - ✓ Must include quotes that span the entire book.
 - ✓ This will be graded based on the number of entries as well as the depth and thoughtfulness of your insight. (See Rubric)

Booktalk

- A “booktalk” is a conversation with the intent to convince someone to read a book. The “booktalker” gives the audience a glimpse of the setting, the characters, and/or the major conflict without providing the resolution. A booktalk is usually about four to six minutes long.
- No written assignment is required.
- Students will prepare in class and share their booktalk in their Language Arts classroom during the first weeks of school.

Please note: If a student has an IEP or 504 Plan directions may be modified accordingly based on the student’s needs. If you have any questions, please reach out to Mrs. Castrovinci at ecastrovinci@wpschools.org.

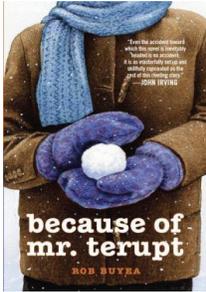
Example of a Double-Entry Journal response from the beginning of Baum's *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*

Citation	Significance
<p>“They walked back to the road. Dorothy helped him over the fence, and they started along the path of yellow brick for the Emerald City” (Baum 10).</p> <p>[Please note that the citation is in quotes. Although it is possible to cite dialogue, one can also cite regular narration that does not record what a character is saying. In any case, the citation should appear exactly as it appears in the text. Furthermore, the citation is followed by a parenthetical citation that includes the author’s last name and the page number. We’ll review MLA citation style in class, but do your best to follow this format over the summer.]</p>	<p>When Dorothy, the main character, was in search of the City of Emeralds, she comes across a scarecrow. Earlier in this chapter, Dorothy noticed Scarecrow blink his eye. That’s when she discovered the Scarecrow was alive. Soon after, Dorothy helps Scarecrow down from his perch, and Scarecrow explains (to Dorothy) that he fears living with a head filled with straw because he feels he will never know anything. Scarecrow joins Dorothy’s quest to go to the Emerald City because Scarecrow wants to possess knowledge. It seems like all the characters are on a search for something they feel they need to be better or to be happy. This seems very important because both characters have problems, and they are hoping their problems will be solved in the Emerald City. I wonder if Dorothy and Scarecrow will find the answers they are looking for.</p>

An additional resource for the Double-Entry Journal can be found at:
<http://www.adlit.org/strategies/22091/>

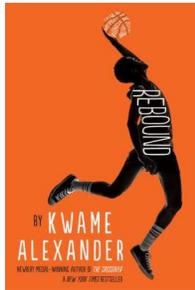
Summer Reading Booklist -Incoming 6th Graders

Theme: Challenges and Triumphs of Growing Up



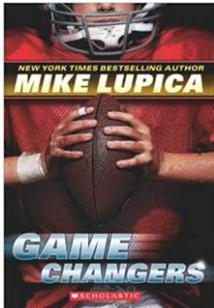
Because of Mr. Terupt by Rob Buyea

It's the start of fifth grade for seven kids at Snow Hill School. There's . . . Jessica, the new girl, smart and perceptive, who's having a hard time fitting in; Alexia, a bully, your friend one second, your enemy the next; Peter, class prankster and troublemaker; Luke, the brain; Danielle, who never stands up for herself; shy Anna, whose home situation makes her an outcast; and Jeffrey, who hates school. Only Mr. Terupt, their new and energetic teacher, seems to know how to deal with them all. He makes the classroom a fun place, even if he doesn't let them get away with much . . . until the snowy winter day when an accident changes everything—and everyone.



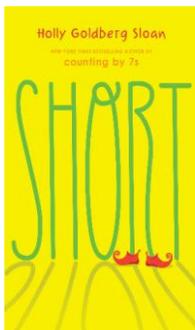
Rebound by Kwame Alexander

Before Josh and Jordan Bell were streaking up and down the court, their father was learning his own moves. In this prequel to Newbery Medal winner *The Crossover*, Chuck Bell takes center stage, as readers get a glimpse of his childhood and how he became the jazz music worshipping, basketball star his sons look up to. This novel in verse will go back in time to visit the childhood of Chuck "Da Man" Bell during one pivotal summer when young Charlie is sent to stay with his grandparents where he discovers basketball and learns more about his family's past.



Game Changers by Mike Lupica

Ben McBain is every football team's dream player. He's a jack-of-all-trades guy that can handle almost any position. When the game is on the line, Ben's number is the one being called for the final play. But Ben wants to be the starting quarterback and the one thing standing in his way is the coach's son. Shawn O'Brien looks the part. He has been groomed by his father, a former professional quarterback. But despite his size and arm strength, Shawn is struggling. Ben is torn between being a good teammate and going after his own dream. As Ben finds out, Shawn isn't the easiest person to help. And when Ben gets an unexpected opportunity, the entire game will change for the both of them.



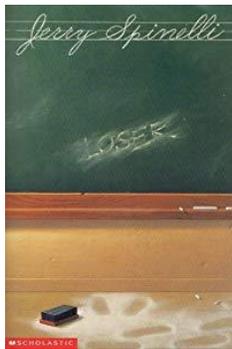
Short by Holly Goldberg Sloan

Julia is very short for her age, but by the end of the summer run of *The Wizard of Oz*, she'll realize how big she is inside, where it counts. She hasn't ever thought of herself as a performer, but when the wonderful director of *Oz* casts her as a Munchkin, she begins to see herself in a new way. Julia becomes friendly with the poised and wise Olive--one of the adults with dwarfism who've joined the production's motley crew of Munchkins. With her deeply artistic neighbor, Mrs. Chang, Julia's own sense of self as an artist grows. Soon, she doesn't want to fade into the background--and it's a good thing, because her director has more big plans for Julia!



Tangerine by Edward Bloor

Paul Fisher sees the world from behind glasses so thick he looks like a bug-eyed alien. But he's not so blind that he can't see there are some very unusual things about his family's new home in Tangerine County, Florida. Where else does a sinkhole swallow the local school, fire burn underground for years, and lightning strike at the same time every day? The chaos is compounded by constant harassment from his football-star brother, and adjusting to life in Tangerine isn't easy for Paul—until he joins the soccer team at his middle school. With the help of his new teammates, Paul begins to discover what lies beneath the surface of his strange new hometown. He also gains the courage to face up to some secrets his family has been keeping from him for far too long. In Tangerine, it seems, anything is possible.

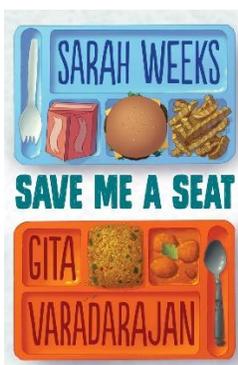


Loser by Jerry Spinelli

Just like other kids, Zinkoff rides his bike, hopes for snow days, and wants to be like his dad when he grows up. But Zinkoff also raises his hand with all the wrong answers, trips over his own feet, and falls down with laughter over a word like "Jabip."

Other kids have their own word to describe him, but Zinkoff is too busy to hear it. He doesn't know he's not like everyone else. And one winter night, Zinkoff's differences show that any name can someday become "hero."

With some of his finest writing to date and great wit and humor, Jerry Spinelli creates a story about a boy's individuality surpassing the need to fit in and the genuine importance of failure. As readers follow Zinkoff from first through sixth grade, it becomes impossible not to identify with and root for him through failures and triumphs.

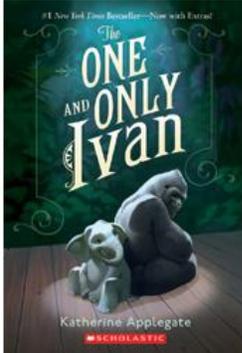


Save Me a Seat by Gita Varadarajan

Joe and Ravi don't think they have anything in common — but soon enough they have a common enemy (the biggest bully in their class) and a common mission: to take control of their lives over the course of a single crazy week.

Summer Reading Booklist -Incoming 7th Graders

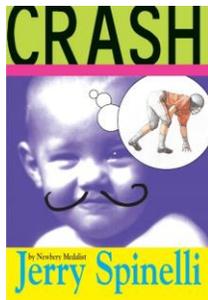
Theme: Empathy



The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate

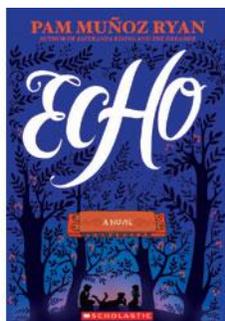
Inspired by the true story of a gorilla who spent 30 years alone in a cage at an indoor zoo in a mall, this beautiful book imagines what that gorilla might have felt and said about his life. Ivan does not dwell on his memories as does his friend Stella, an elderly elephant in the cage next door. Still, he remembers his life with his family in the jungle, the death of his sister, and his early days being raised by Max, the owner of the animal show. He also has memories from his long, lonely interment with only a television, a stuffed animal, and a stray dog who sneaks into his concrete cage to sleep on his chest for company. Ivan loves to paint. He can remember making designs on

his mother's back as a young ape, and now Max sells the pictures that Ivan creates each day. The custodian's daughter also loves to paint and shares her supplies with Ivan, giving him new ways to express his experiences. Yet life at the animal show is becoming increasingly distressing. Stella has an infection on her foot that Max ignores because he is low on money. When he purchases a baby elephant to revive interest in the show, both Stella and Ivan are concerned about how he is treating this gentle youngster. Encouraged by Bob, the stray dog, and inspired by Stella, Ivan begins to imagine rescuing not only the baby elephant but himself. Perhaps his painting is the key. Maybe he can use it to change the animals' lives forever.



Crash by Jerry Spinelli

Cocky seventh-grade super-jock Crash Coogan got his nickname the day he used his first football helmet to knock his cousin Bridget flat on her backside. And he has been running over people ever since, especially Penn Webb, the dweeby, vegetarian Quaker kid who lives down the block. Through the eyes of Crash, readers get a rare glimpse into the life of a bully in this unforgettable and beloved story about stereotypes and the surprises life can bring.

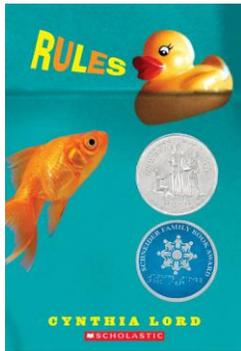


Echo by Pat Munoz Ryan

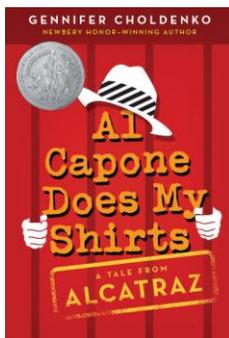
Lost and alone in the forbidden Black Forest, Otto meets three mysterious sisters and suddenly finds himself entwined in a puzzling quest involving a prophecy, a promise, and a harmonica. Decades later, Friedrich in Germany, Mike in Pennsylvania, and Ivy in California each become interwoven when the very same harmonica lands in their lives, binding them by an invisible thread of destiny. All the children face daunting challenges: rescuing a father, protecting a brother, holding a family together. How their suspenseful solo stories converge in an orchestral crescendo will resound in your heart long after the last note

has been struck.

Rules by Cynthia Lord

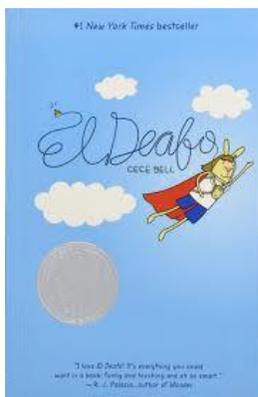


This 2007 Newbery Honor Book is a humorous and heartwarming debut about feeling different and finding acceptance. Twelve-year-old Catherine just wants a normal life. Which is near impossible when you have a brother with autism and a family that revolves around his disability. She's spent years trying to teach David the rules, from "a peach is not a funny-looking apple" to "keep your pants on in public," in order to stop his embarrassing behaviors. But the summer Catherine meets Jason, a paraplegic boy, and Kristi, the next-door friend she's always wished for, it's her own shocking behavior that turns everything upside down and forces her to ask: What is normal?



Al Capone Does My Shirts by Gennifer Choldenko

Moose Flannagan moves with his family to Alcatraz so his dad can work as a prison guard and his sister, Natalie, can attend a special school. But Natalie has autism, and when she's denied admittance to the school, the stark setting of Alcatraz begins to unravel the tenuous coping mechanisms Moose's family has used for dealing with her disorder. When Moose meets Piper, the cute daughter of the Warden, he knows right off she's trouble. But she's also strangely irresistible. All Moose wants to do is protect Natalie, live up to his parents' expectations, and stay out of trouble. But on Alcatraz, trouble is never very far away. Set in 1935, when guards actually lived on Alcatraz Island with their families, Choldenko's second novel brings humor to the complexities of family dynamics and illuminates the real struggle of a kid trying to free himself from the "good boy" stance he's taken his whole life.

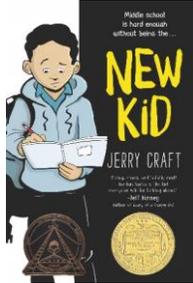


El Deafo by Cece Bell

Going to school and making new friends can be tough. But going to school and making new friends while wearing a bulky hearing aid strapped to your chest? That requires superpowers! In this funny, poignant graphic novel memoir, author/illustrator Cece Bell chronicles her hearing loss at a young age and her subsequent experiences with the Phonic Ear, a very powerful—and very awkward—hearing aid. The Phonic Ear gives Cece the ability to hear—sometimes things she shouldn't—but also isolates her from her classmates. She really just wants to fit in and find a true friend, someone who appreciates her as she is. After some trouble, she is finally able to harness the power of the Phonic Ear and become "El Deafo, Listener for All." And more importantly, declare a place for herself in the world and find the friend she's longed for.

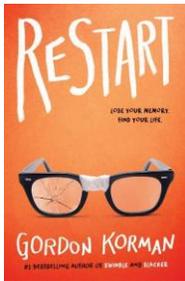
Summer Reading Booklist -Incoming 8th Graders

Theme: Courage and Overcoming Adversity



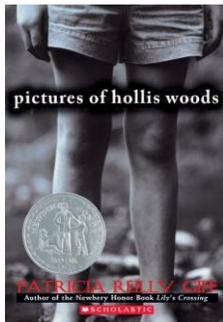
The New Kid (Graphic Novel)

New Kid is a 2019 graphic novel by Jerry Craft. The novel tells the story of Jordan Banks who experiences culture shock when he enrolls at a private school. The book was well received and won the 2020 Newbery Medal and Coretta Scott King Award. It was the first graphic novel to be awarded the Newbery Medal.



Restart by Gordon Korman

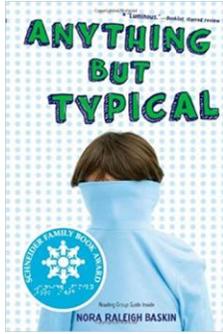
The story begins with eighth-grader Chase Ambrose waking up in the hospital with amnesia. His mother, whom he doesn't recognize, informs him that he fell off the roof of their house. Chase not only doesn't remember that—he remembers nothing of his 13 years.



Pictures of Hollis Woods by Patricia Reilly Giff

Hollis Woods was an infant when she was abandoned and for 12 years she has been transferred from one foster home to another. To the social agency, she is a "mountain of trouble" because she skips school and runs away, even from the Regans, a family willing to give her a real home. When she is placed with Josie, an elderly artist who is becoming very forgetful, Hollis begins to feel needed and doesn't ever want to leave this eccentric old woman who knows a lot about friendship and love.

Fearful that the social agency will take her from Josie, Hollis plans a winter escape. This time she takes Josie with her and returns to Branches, the summer home that belongs to the Regans. All along, Hollis longs for her life with the Regans, and records every special moment with them in a gallery of pictures.



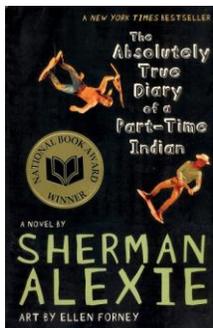
Anything But Typical by Nora Raleigh Baskin

Jason Blake is an autistic 12-year-old living in a neurotypical world. Most days it's just a matter of time before something goes wrong. But Jason finds a glimmer of understanding when he comes across PhoenixBird, who posts stories to the same online site as he does. Jason can be himself when he writes and he thinks that PhoenixBird — her name is Rebecca — could be his first real friend. But as desperate as Jason is to meet her, he's terrified that if they do meet, Rebecca will only see his autism and not who Jason really is.



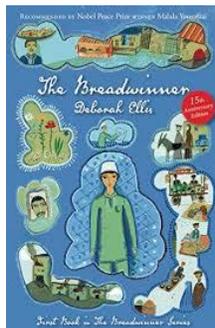
The Boy on Cinnamon Street by Phoebe Stone

In this affecting novel, a wounded girl must find the courage to face a painful family secret, with the help of a boy who won't give up on her. Something is wrong with Louise. She's a natural at gymnastics, but she quit the school team. She's living with her loving grandparents, but she's trying to get her best friend's family to adopt her. And a secret admirer is sending Louise love notes, but she can't find the courage to respond. What's holding her back? Only by coming face to face with the truth about a family tragedy can Louise start to live again, and finally get the boy.



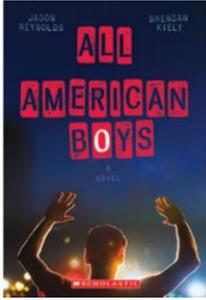
Absolutely True Diary of a Part Time Indian by Sherman Alexie

Wanting to better his life, fourteen-year-old Junior, a teenager on the Spokane Indian reservation, begins attending a nearby all-white school. Regarded as a traitor by his own people, Junior struggles to make new friends as he adjusts to his new academic environment. acclaimed artist Ellen Forney that reflect the character's art as it chronicles the contemporary adolescence of one Native American boy attempting to break away from the life he was destined to live.



The Breadwinner by Deborah Ellis *(Graphic Novel Present)

Parvana is an 11-year-old girl who lives under Taliban rule in Afghanistan in 2001. After the wrongful arrest of her father, Parvana cuts off her hair and dresses like a boy to support her family. Working alongside a friend, she soon discovers a new world of freedom and danger. Drawing strength from the fantastical stories she invents, Parvana embarks on an epic quest to find her father and reunite her family.



All American Boys by Jason Reynolds

A bag of chips. That's all 16-year-old Rashad is looking for at the corner bodega. What he finds instead is a fist-happy cop, Paul Galluzzo, who mistakes Rashad for a shoplifter, mistakes Rashad's pleadings that he's stolen nothing for belligerence, mistakes Rashad's resistance to leave the bodega as resisting arrest, mistakes Rashad's every flinch at every punch the cop throws as further resistance and refusal to stay still as ordered. But how can you stay still when someone is pounding your face into the concrete

pavement?

But there are witnesses: Quinn Collins — a varsity basketball player and Rashad's classmate, who has been raised by Paul since his own father died in Afghanistan — and a video camera. Soon the beating is all over the news, and Paul is getting threatened with accusations of prejudice and racial brutality. Quinn refuses to believe that the man who has basically been his savior could possibly be guilty. But then Rashad is absent. And absent again. And again. And the basketball team, half of whom are Rashad's best friends, start to take sides. As does the school. And the town. Simmering tensions threaten to explode as Rashad and Quinn are forced to face decisions and consequences they had never considered before.

Memorial Summer Reading Rubric

	10	8	6	4
Double Entry Journal	Student accurately and insightfully responds to the text.	Student accurately responds to the text.	Student responds to the text. Some explanations may or may not be accurate to the text.	Student does not respond to the text. OR Responses are off topic.
Quantity of Annotations/ Responses	Writes 10 or more entries.	Writes 8-9 entries.	Writes 6-7 entries.	Writes 5 or less entries.
Insight	Responses are thorough and thoughtful.	Responses are fairly thorough and thoughtful.	Some responses are incomplete or irrelevant.	Many responses are disjointed, incomplete or irrelevant.
Quality of Annotations: Comprehension	Student exhibits a level of comprehension that extends beyond the literal to the personal, with critical, evaluative responses.	Student exhibits a level of comprehension that extends beyond the literal to the personal, with some critical responses.	Student exhibits a level of comprehension that is mostly literal or personal, with few critical responses.	Student exhibits a level of comprehension that is mostly literal or personal, with no critical responses.
Thoroughness of Reading	Annotations spread out evenly across the book.	Annotations spread out mostly across the first half of the book.	Annotations focused mainly on one section of text, not evenly throughout.	Annotations from the very beginning of the book only.