

Summer Reading

GRADES 9 & 10

The high school English department shares a belief that developing a lifelong habit of reading results in long-term benefits for learning and wellbeing. Our literature and reading curriculum provides a range of reading experiences from classic texts to contemporary fiction and non-fiction. We are committed to encouraging students to read widely and deeply and to think critically about literature and the world through writing, discussion, and exploration.

To this end, all 9th and 10th grade students should read books that challenge them and allow them to explore their interests during the summer months. Students will be expected to share their responses to their selected summer reading texts during their English courses next school year.

- Students in **honors-level** courses should select at least **one fiction** and **one nonfiction** text from the lists and resources provided.
- Students in **college prep level** should select at least **one book** of their choice from the lists and resources provided.

Some of the recommendations in this document contain mature content; please be diligent in researching the titles you are considering prior to reading. Happy reading!

Grade 9 Team Lead: Ms. Reagan Lattari: rlattari@wssd.org
Grade 10 Team Lead: Ms. Mimi Drew: mdrew@wssd.org

ONLINE READING RESOURCES & AWARD LISTS

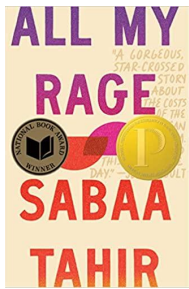


For Reluctant Readers



Click [HERE](#) to find more recommended reads from our school librarian, Mrs. Cohen

FICTION recommendations



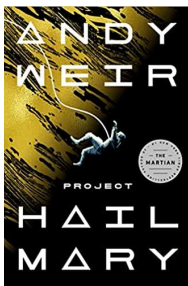
All My Rage by Sabaa Tahir:

This story flips between past and present, beginning with a young Pakistani couple, looking for a fresh start, who move to a small California town and buy a hotel. Fast forward to present day, and their son, Sal, is struggling to hold it all together. The hotel which once held so much promise is now an albatross around their necks, and his parents' lives are unravelling at the seams.



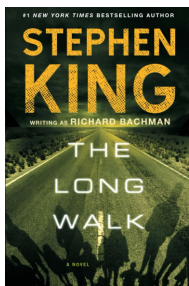
The Gilded Ones by Namina Forna:

This action-packed new fantasy series from debut author Namina Forna, follows the story of a young female named Deka, who lives in the West-African-inspired society of Otera, in which women live to be of service to men, and their roles in everyday life are grounded in misogyny.



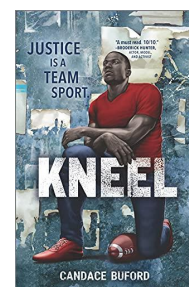
Project Hail Mary by Andy Weir:

Ryland Grace wakes up on a spaceship with no memory, where he soon learns that he is the sole survivor on a desperate mission to save the earth. With only the two dead bodies of his crewmates as company and his memories slowly returning, he must piece together what has happened and complete his interstellar mission to save humanity.



The Long Walk by Stephen King:

On the first day of May, 100 teenage boys meet for an event known throughout the country as The Long Walk. If you break the rules, you get three warnings. If you exceed your limit, what happens is absolutely terrifying.



Kneel by Candice Buford:

For guys like Russell Boudreaux, football is the only way out of their small town. As the team's varsity tight end, Rus has a singular goal: to get a scholarship and play on the national stage. But when his best friend is unfairly arrested and kicked off the team, Rus faces an impossible choice: speak up or live in fear.

NONFICTION recommendations

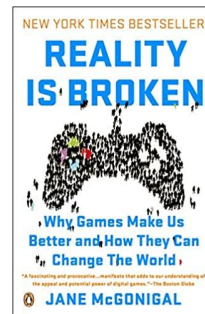


Spare, by Prince Harry Before losing his mother, twelve-year-old Prince Harry was known as the carefree one, the happy-go-lucky Spare to the more serious Heir. Grief changed everything. He struggled at school, struggled with anger, with loneliness—and, because he blamed the press for his mother's death, he struggled to accept life in the spotlight.



Crossing the Line: A Fearless Team of Brothers and the Sport That Changed Their Lives Forever by Kareem

Rosser: Growing up in an economically disadvantaged part of Philadelphia, the Rosser brothers discover a horse stable. Their story is about the bond of brotherhood, family loyalty, the transformative connection between man and horse, and forging a better future that comes from overcoming impossible odds.



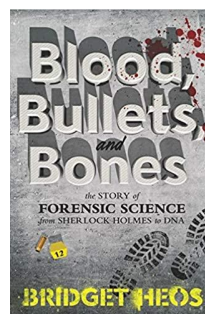
Reality is Broken by Jane McGonigal

Hundreds of millions of people globally — 174 million in the United States alone — regularly inhabit game worlds because they provide the rewards, stimulating challenges, and epic victories that are so often lacking in the real world. Instead of futile handwringing about this exodus from reality, world-renowned game designer McGonigal argues that we need to figure out how to make the real world—engage us in the way that games do.



A Little Devil in America by Hanif

Abdurraqib: A profound and lasting reflection on how Black performance is inextricably woven into the fabric of American culture. Each moment in every performance he examines has layers of resonance in Black and white cultures, the politics of American empire, and Abdurraqib's own personal history of love, grief, and performance.



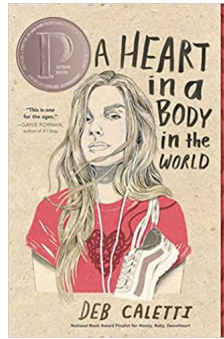
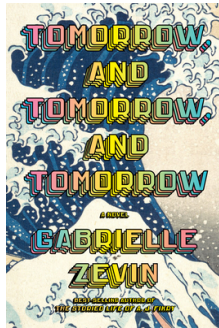
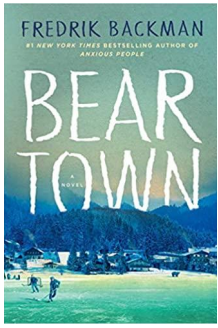
Blood, Bullets, and Bones by Bridget Heos:

Acclaimed author, Bridget Heos uses real-life cases to tell the history of modern forensic science, from the first test for arsenic poisoning to fingerprinting, firearm and blood spatter analysis, DNA evidence, and all the important milestones in between.

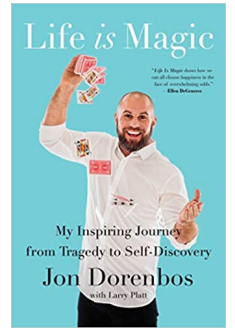
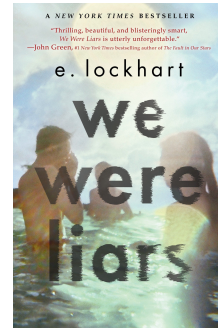
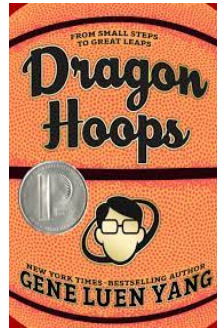
BOOKS WE love

Please note: The recommendations below are meant to be options for pleasure reading during the summer. These are books that the English team has read and loved. You **do not** have to read the book that your own English teacher recommends. These are the books that make us love reading!

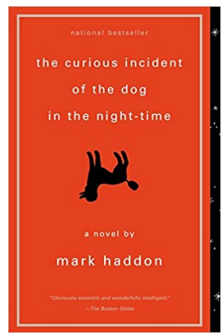
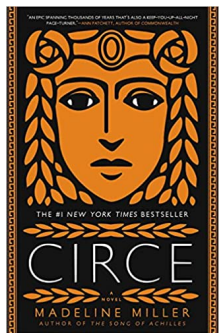
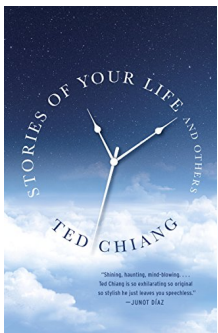
Ms. Lattari recommends...



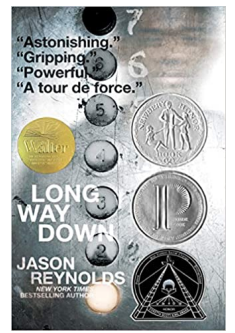
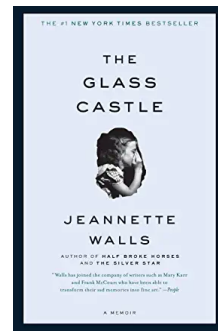
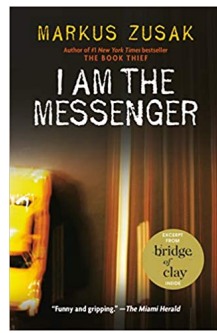
Ms. Evans recommends...



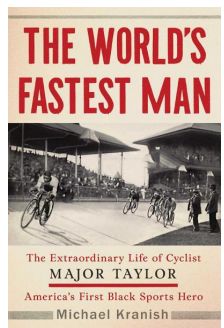
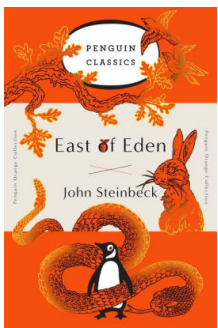
Mr. Peterson recommends...



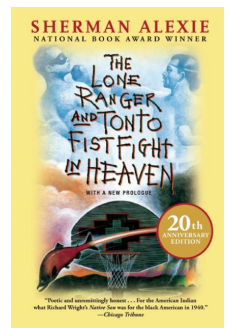
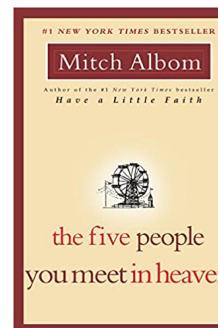
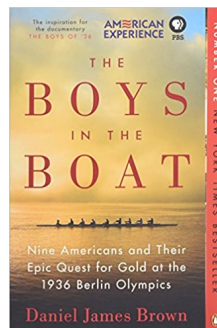
Mrs. Scafidi recommends...



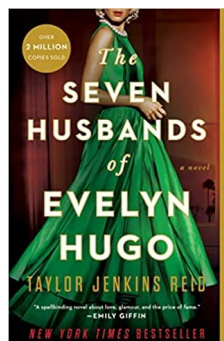
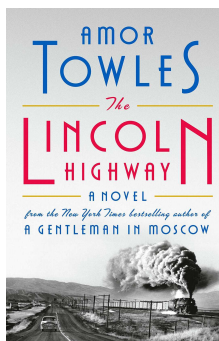
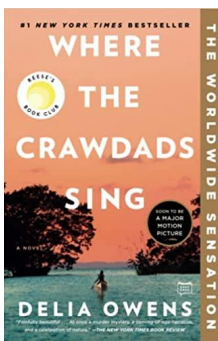
Mr. McMahon recommends...



Mr. Haney recommends...



Ms. Drew recommends...



Mr. Morris recommends...

