

I.	Call to Order / Attendance
II.	Executive Session - 7:00 p.m.
III.	School Community Session - 7:30 p.m.
III.A.	School / Community Recognition
III.A.1.	Annual Day of Pi Celebration, Continental Math League - Brown Middle School; Jayson Tung Award Winner
III.A.2.	"eesmarts Middle School Essay Contest"; Kate Mazzeo, First Place Winner; Grade 6 Student at Brown Middle School
III.A.3.	Daniel Hand High School Interact Club - Rotary International Award for "Fair Earth Bazaar and Cafe"
III.A.4.	National Teacher Appreciation Day (May 6, 2008); Speech and Language Pathologists: Barbara Irzyk, Mary Megargee, Linda Rutledge, Tricia Winton
III.A.5.	National School Nurse Day (May 7, 2008) - Health Services Personnel: Joann Boulden, Deborah O'Connor (Jeffrey); Lisa Equi (Island Avenue); Stephanie Bulyk (Ryerson); Candace Cardoza, Shirley Rinaldi (Brown); Karen Owen, Sheila Judge (Polson); Donna Konarski, Karin Thelin (DHHS)
III.B.	Public Participation
IV.	Board of Education Student Representatives' Report
V.	Superintendent's Report
V.A.	Update: 2008-2009 Enrollment
V.B.	Overview: K-12 Summer Reading List 2008 - Catch the Reading Bug
VI.	Board Members' Comments
VII.	Reports from Committees / Liaison
VII.A.	Planning Committee
VII.B.	Personnel Committee
VII.C.	Policy Committee
VII.D.	Finance Committee
VII.E.	Community Outreach Committee
VII.F.	LEARN Liaison
VIII.	Audience Response to Information Presented
IX.	Consent Agenda (Items 9.1 - 9.6)
IX.A.	Bills Payable: \$40.67(06-07); \$517,431.65(07-08)
IX.B.	Line Transfers: \$84,651.80
IX.C.	Budget Expenditure Report as of May 1, 2008
IX.D.	Donation: \$4,760.00 to J. Milton Jeffrey Elementary School from Jeffrey PTO for Field Trips.
IX.E.	Applications for Beginning Educator Support and Training (BEST) Program Mentors: Denise Earles and Claire Sullivan (DHHS English)

Teachers); Amber Bishop and Nancy Finch (Ryerson Special Education Teachers)

IX.F. Textbook Adoption: Precalculus with Limits-Houghton Mifflin Publisher, DHHS Precalculus; The Practice of Statistics-Bedford, Freeman & Worth Publishing Group, DHHS AP Statistics

X. Action Item: Minutes April 22, 2008 Meeting

XI. Action Item: Submission of the Connecticut State Department of Education Special Education Grant Programs Application for 2009

XII. Old Business

XII.A. Schedule Date for Board of Education Retreat

XIII. New Business

XIII.A. Textbook Adoption Preview (May 6-20, 2008) (Ref. Policy 6100.10)

XIII.A.1. An Introduction to Programming Using Visual Basic .Net; Lawrenceville Press Publisher; DHHS Topics in Computer Science

XIII.A.2. Weather and Climate-Science Explorer; Prentice Hall Publisher; Brown Grade 6 Science

XIII.A.3. Earth's Changing Surface-Science Explorer; Prentice Hall Publisher; Polson Grade 7 Science

XIII.A.4. Human Health and Biology-Science Explorer; Prentice Hall Publisher; Polson Grade 7&8 Science

XIV. Future Agenda Items

XIV.A. Presentation on IMPACT Program

XV. Meetings of Importance

XV.A. May 15, 2008; Planning Committee; 7:30 a.m., Central Office Room B

XV.B. May 20, 2008; Policy Committee; 5:30 p.m., Central Office Room B

XV.C. May 20, 2008; Town / BOE Budget Referendum; 6:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., Dist. 1 Surf Club, Dist 2, Brown M.S.

XVI. Adjournment

Public Participation Guidelines:

Members of the community are invited to speak on topics of interest and / or topics to be addressed in the agenda. The Board of Education may choose to interact with participants, but will not act upon topics that require further study before action is taken. The participation time will be limited to three (3) minutes per person and fifteen (15) minutes overall to guarantee efficient operation of the entire meeting.

Catch the Reading Bug



**Madison Public Schools
2008
Grades K-12
Summer Reading List**

Madison Public Schools
Excellence In Education

A Message to Parents...

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Greetings from the Central Office.

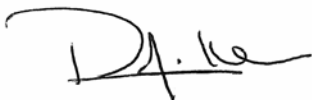
The attached 2008 Summer Reading List has been compiled through the collaborative efforts of many individuals, including the Madison Public Schools' library media specialists and staff, language arts / English coordinators and teachers, reading consultants, and Jane Ash, Children's Librarian and Chris Angeli, Young Adult Librarian from Scranton Memorial Library. All have been truly dedicated to developing a compelling list of titles, which we hope will appeal to all age groups.

As always, the Summer Reading List is a roster of suggested titles, except where noted. All those involved in its development acknowledge that the list of titles, although covering a wide variety of genre, is limited. We do not intend to discourage students' sampling of other books or magazines and periodicals not on the list. Please feel free to suggest additional titles for students to read, and don't hesitate to ask librarians or representatives from local book stores for assistance in recommending more titles. Everyone is ready to do the utmost to help young people develop a love of reading.

This year's list contains "mini-lists" including librarian picks, student favorites, and selected titles from Connecticut authors. Books available in audio format at Scranton Library are also noted. In addition, a list of the Nutmeg Award nominees and winners is included. In January, students may vote for their favorite nominee to win the coveted state award. These titles were selected by the Connecticut Nutmeg Committee.

Together, as in the past, we can make reading an integral part of our young people's lives. Best wishes for an enjoyable and relaxing summer being transformed by these wonderful books. Should you like to explore reading lists for other grades, visit the Madison Public Schools' website at www.madison.k12.ct.us.

Sincerely,



David J. Klein
Superintendent

2008 Summer Reading List Committee:

Madison Public Schools:

Sandra Bizier	Island Avenue Elementary School
Larry Halpern	J.M. Jeffery Elementary School
Noel Heimer	Dr. R.H. Brown Lower Middle School
Ellen Nosal	Walter C. Polson Middle School
Anita Rutlin	Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Cynthia Schneider	Daniel Hand High School; Coordinator
John Wiggins-Strada	K.H. Ryerson Elementary School

Scranton Memorial Library:

Jane Ash	Children's Librarian
Chris Angeli	Young Adult Librarian

Thank you to the Language Arts / English Coordinators and faculty, the reading teachers, and the library paraprofessionals for their assistance in creating this document.

The annotations in this guide are used with generous permission from the following:
Follett Library Resources, McHenry, Illinois
LION (Libraries On-Line) IPAC, Middletown Connecticut, who credits
Syndetic Solutions, Inc., Portland, Oregon
Select authors

2008 Summer Reading List Grades K-4

General Instructions

On the following pages is the suggested Summer Reading List for students entering Grades K-4 in the fall of 2008. Books used for core instruction during the school year are not on this list. **Students are encouraged to read at least five books this summer.** A selected book may be one that can be read by the child, with the child, or to the child.

While the summer reading list should serve as a guide, reading need not be limited to these titles. If the suggested book title is not available, try another by the same author. Additional authors are also listed. Please remember that each child's reading ability varies; therefore, you are welcome to choose a title from another grade level if it seems appropriate. The library media specialists, classroom teachers, and reading teachers in each school, as well as the children's librarian at Scranton Library, will be happy to assist you and your child in choosing the best books for you to read to your child or for your child to read independently. Scranton Library has several resources (listed below) that may help you find a particular book. A list of periodicals is also included as part of this summer reading packet. Students are encouraged to enjoy this form of reading as well. Additional reading lists are available online at www.madison.k12.ct.us, at your child's school web site, at Scranton Library, and at local book stores.

It is expected that students will complete the recording sheet for grades K-4 found at the end of the list. **Please return the sheets to the school's library media specialist in September.**

Suggested Periodicals for Students

<u>American Girl</u>	<u>National Geographic Kids</u>
<u>Appleseeds</u>	<u>Ranger Rick</u>
<u>Cobblestone</u>	<u>Spider</u>
<u>Jack and Jill</u>	<u>Sports Illustrated Kids</u>
<u>Kids Discover</u>	<u>Zoo Books</u>
<u>Ladybug</u>	

Resources for Parents

Books:

- Backes, Laura: Best Books for Kids Who Think They Hate to Read
Miles, Betty: Hey! I'm Reading!
Ragi, Esme: How to Get Your Child to Love Reading
Baxter, Kathleen A: Gotcha for Guys!

Periodicals:

- Parents Parenting Family Fun

Helpful Web Sites

Scranton Library Children's Section
www.scrantonlibrary.org/children

Connecticut Nutmeg Award
<http://www.nutmegaward.org/>

Recommended Reading for Children
www.kidsreads.com

Reading Is Fundamental
www.rif.org

Books for Boys
<http://www.talestoldtall.com/index.html>

Summer Programs at Scranton Memorial Library

Nutmeg Discussion Groups for Grades 4 - 6 will meet from 6:30 to 7:30 on Mondays, June 23 through September 8. Register at Scranton Memorial Library. Details can be found at the end of the Nutmeg lists that follow the Summer Reading List.

Catch the Reading Bug!

Summer Reading Program

Registration begins on Monday June 16 at Scranton Memorial Library. Each half hour you read takes you on an adventurous journey, helping ants escape the ant farm for the freedom of the game board picnic. **(Grades K - 6)**

Kindergarten

If the suggested title is not available, try another by the same author.

A selected book may be one that can be read by the child, with the child, or to the child. You are welcome to choose a title from another grade level to read aloud to your child.

Students are asked to complete and return a recording sheet(s) to the school's library media specialist in September.

FICTION: Picture Book

Anholt, Catherine and Laurence: **Monkey Around with Chimp and Zee**

Crimi, Carolyn: **Don't Need Friends**

Cronin, Doreen: **Diary of a Fly**

Davis, Katie: **I'm Telling You, Dex, Kindergarten Rocks**

Feiffer, Jules: **Bark, George**

Fleming, Denise: **Buster**

Heide Parry, Florence: **Some Things are Scary**

LaRochelle, David: **The Best Pet of All**

McCarty, Peter: **Hondo and Fabian**

Portis, Antoinette: **Not a Stick**

Portis, Antoinette: **Not a Box**

Rathmann, Peggy: **The Day the Babies Crawled Away**

Rohmann, Eric: **My Friend Rabbit**

Seeger, Laura Vaccaro: **First the Egg**

Schlein, Miriam: **Little Raccoon's Big Question**

Silverman, Erica: **Don't Fidget a Feather**

Stevenson, James: **Don't Make Me Laugh**

Willems, Mo: **Knuffle Bunny Too: A Case of Mistaken Identity**

Wilson, Karma: **A Frog in the Bog**

Authors: Jan Brett, Eric Carle, Ezra Keats, David Shannon, Rosemary Wells, Ted Arnold, Audrey Wood, Lois Ehlert

NON-FICTION: Picture Book

Brett, Jan: **The Mitten**

Cowley, Joy: **Chameleon, Chameleon**

Demuth, Patricia: **Snakes**

Dodson, Peter: **An Alphabet of Dinosaurs**

Driscoll, Laura: **All About Dogs and Puppies**

Dussling, Jennifer: **Planets**

Egielski, Richard: **The Gingerbread Boy**

Frost, Helen: **Dogs**

Gillis, Jennifer Blizin: **Cats**

Hall, Margaret: **Ladybugs**

Macken, JoAnn Early: **Horses**

McKay, Sindy: **About Dinosaurs**

Ransom, Candice F.: **Big Rigs**

Singer, Marilyn: **Fireflies at Midnight**

Authors: Allan Fowler, Gail Gibbons, David M. Schwartz

Grades 1 and 2

A selected book may be one that can be read by the child, with the child, or to the child. You are welcome to choose a title from another grade level to read aloud to your child.

If the suggested title is not available, try another by the same author. At the end of the Grades 1-2 list, look for the most popular books under “Student Picks!” Also, at the end of the K-4 list, you will find selected titles by Connecticut authors.

Students are asked to complete and return a recording sheet(s) to the school’s library media specialist in September.

☺ **LIBRARIAN PICKS!**

These books are the librarians’ favorites. Try one!

🎧 **AUDIO FORMAT AVAILABLE**

These books are available at Scranton Library as a sound cassette, CD, playaway™, or downloadable audiobook. To access the audiobook collection, you must make one trip to Scranton to create a free account. After that, everything can be done remotely at <http://www.scrantonlibrary.org/>.

FICTION: Picture Books

Andreae, Giles: **Giraffes Can’t Dance**

Gerald the giraffe is too clumsy to dance with all the other animals at the Jungle Dance, until he finds the right music.

☺ Child, Lauren: **But Excuse Me That is My Book**

When Lola's favorite book is not on the library's shelf, her older brother, Charlie, tries to find another book she will enjoy.

☺ Cole, Henry: **On Meadowview Street**

Upon moving to a new house, young Caroline and her parents encourage wildflowers to grow and birds and animals to stay in their yard, which soon has the whole suburban street living up to its name.

Davis, Katie: **Mabel the Tooth Fairy**

Relates how Mabel Becaharuvic's failure to brush or floss her own teeth turned her from an ordinary fairy into the Tooth Fairy.

Donaldson, Julia: **The Gruffalo**

A clever mouse uses the threat of a terrifying creature to keep from being eaten by a fox, an owl, and a snake-- only to have to outwit that creature as well.

☺ Elya, Susan Middleton: **Bebe Goes Shopping**

(Text mainly in English with some Spanish.)

Rhyming text describes a trip to the grocery store for a mama and her baby boy. Includes a glossary of Spanish words used in the story.

Fleishman, Paul: **Sidewalk Circus**

A young girl watches as the activities across the street from her bus stop become a circus.

Grogan, John: **Bad Dog, Marley!**

Marley, a rambunctious puppy, causes lots of trouble in his new home--and feels very sad about it--but then proves beyond a doubt that he is a valuable member of the household.

☺ Helakoski, Leslie: **Big Chickens**

While trying to escape from a wolf, four frightened chickens keep getting themselves into the very predicaments they are trying to avoid.

Henkes, Kevin: **Lilly’s Big Day**

When her teacher announces that he is getting married, Lilly the mouse sets her heart on being the flower girl at his wedding.

Isaacs, Anne: **Pancakes for Supper!**

In the backwoods of New England, a young girl cleverly fends off the threats of wild animals by trading her clothes for her safety.

☺ Jacobson, Jennifer: **Andy Shane and the Pumpkin Trick**

Andy Shane, with help from Grandma Webb and some marbles, tricks the people who keep stealing his friend Dolores Starbuckle's Halloween pumpkin.

Kann, Victoria: **Purplicious**

Feeling like an outcast from her classmates who all love black, Pinkalicious decides to stay true to her favorite color and learns that pink is pretty and powerful.

Keller, Laurie: **Arnie the Doughnut**

Arnie the talking doughnut convinces Mr. Bing that not all doughnuts are meant to be eaten.

McMullan, Kate & Jim: **I'm Dirty!**

A busy backhoe loader describes all the items it hauls off a lot and all the fun it has getting dirty while doing so. By the same author of **I Stink!**

O'Neill, Alexis: **The Recess Queen**

Mean Jean is the biggest bully on the school playground until a new girl arrives and challenges Jean's status as the Recess Queen.

Palatini, Margie: **Tub-boo-boo**

Henry gets his toe stuck in the tub spout while taking a bath, and everyone who tries to free him gets stuck as well.

☺ Rex, Adam: **Pssst!**

The animals at the zoo have some unusual requests for a little girl who goes to visit, and mischief ensues when she decides to help them.

Scieszka, Jon: **The True Story of the Three Little Pigs**

The wolf gives his own outlandish version of what really happened when he tangled with the three little pigs.

Sierra, Judy: **The Secret Science Project that Almost Ate My School**

A girl sends off for "Professor Swami's Super Slime" to use as her science fair project and then has to cope with the funny disaster that follows.

Sierra, Judy: **Mind your Manners, B.B. Wolf**

When B.B. Wolf, who now lives in the Villain Villa Retirement Residence, is invited to the library for a storybook tea, he is careful to follow the advice of his crocodile friend and impresses everyone with how polite he can be.

Simon, James: **Baby Brains and RoboMom**

Baby Brains, "the smartest baby in the universe," creates a robot--RoboMom--to help his parents with their chores around the house, but her help proves to be a little bit problematic.

☺ Schwarz, Viviane: **Timothy and the Strong Pajamas: A Superhero Adventure**

"This is the story of Timothy Smallbeast. He wasn't big. And he wasn't strong. (But he really, really wished he was.)" After his mother mends his favorite pajamas, Timothy finds that he has super strength and decides to use it to help others, but when the pajamas rip again, he loses his strength just when he needs it most.

Wiesner, David: **Flotsam**

A colorful wordless picture book that features a young, science-minded boy who goes to the beach to collect and examine anything floating that has been washed ashore and discovers an underwater camera that contains a collection of unusual pictures.

🐉 Yarrow, Peter: **Puff the Magic Dragon**

The adventures of a boy and his dragon friend are recounted in this classic song from the 1960s.

Authors: Janell Cannon, Ludwig Bemelmans, James Marshall, Susan Meddaugh, Katharine Holabrid, Marilyn Moss, Carol Carrick, Mo Willems, Audrey Wood, Jonathan London, William Steig

FICTION: Chapter Books

🐉 Blume, Judy: **Freckle Juice**

Andrew wants freckles so badly that he buys Sharon's freckle recipe for fifty cents.

Byers, Betsy: **My Brother Ant**

In four separate stories, Ant's older brother gets rid of the monster under Ant's bed, forgives Ant for drawing on his homework, tries to read a story, and helps Ant write a letter to Santa.

Cushman, Doug: **Aunt Eater Loves a Mystery**

Aunt Eater loves mystery stories so much that she sees mysterious adventures wherever she looks.

Guest, Elisssa Haden: **Iris and Walter and Baby Rose**

Iris has a bit of trouble adjusting when her new sister Rose turns out to be a very, very fussy baby.

Mills, Elizabeth: **Belle**

Emmy has just moved from the country and had to leave her beloved horse behind, but Belle, an American quarter horse on which she takes riding lessons, helps her to get used to the noise and bustle of big city life.

Maccarone, Grace: **Itchy, Itchy Chicken Pox**

Peppy rhymes present the humorous side to a common ailment.

Ormerod, Jan: **Ballet Sisters: the duckling and the swan**

Sylvie and her older sister dance their way through make-believe adventures that include princesses, fairy queens, swans, and ducklings.

Rylant, Cynthia: **Poppleton**

Poppleton the pig makes a friend, reads a library book about adventure, and helps a sick friend get better.

Sachar, Louis: **Marvin Redpost: alone in his teacher's house**

Marvin is pleased when his teacher asks him to take care of her dog while she's away, but he soon finds that there's more pressure involved than he likes.

FICTION: Series

Arnold, Tedd: **Fly Guy**

Brown, Jeff: **Flat Stanley**

Chaconas, Dori: **Cork & Fuzz**

Christopher, Matt: **Soccer Cats**

DiCamillo, Kate: **Mercy Watson**

Giff, Patricia Reilly: **The Kids of the Polk Street School**

Gould, Robert: **Time Soldiers**

Howe, James: **Pinky and Rex**

Meadows, Daisy: **Rainbow Fairies: the jewel fairies**

McDonald, Megan: **Stink**

Pilkey, Dav: **Ricky Ricotta**

🦉 Roy, Ron: **A to Z Mysteries**

🦉 Rylant, Cynthia: **Henry and Mudge**

Thaler, Mike: **Black Lagoon**

☺ Willems, Mo: **Elephant & Piggie**

NON-FICTION: General (includes folktales)

Alfano, Maria B.: **How to Draw the Newest Pokemon**

Presents step-by-step instructions for drawing the newest kinds of Pokemon.

Bishop, Nic: **Nic Bishop Frogs**

Ballard, Robert D.: **Finding the Titanic**

Describes the voyage of the Titanic, the accident that caused it to sink, the rescue of those who survived, and the 1986 expedition to find the sunken ship.

Clements, Andrew: **A Million Dots**

Illustrations and fun facts demonstrate what one million dots look like.

Fleischman, Paul: **Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal: a worldwide Cinderella**

A retelling of the "Cinderella" story based on a variety of folk traditions, including elements from Mexico, Iran, Korea, Russia, Appalachia, and other countries and regions.

Gibbons, Gail: **Frogs**

Gibbons, Gail: **Nature's Green Umbrella
Tropical Rain Forests**

Describes the climatic conditions of the rain forest as well as the different layers of plants and animals that comprise the ecosystem.

Jenkins, Steve: **Prehistoric Actual Size**

Provides facts especially about the sizes of various dinosaurs and other prehistoric animals.

Johnstone, Michael: **NASCAR**

Kramer, Stephen: **Tornado**

Latta, Sara L: **What Happens in Summer?**

Simple text and photographs describe the things animals and people do in the summer, how the summer helps plants to grow, and what makes the summer warm.

McLeese, Don: **Babe Ruth**

Mclimans, David: **Gone Wild: an endangered animal alphabet**

Presents the alphabet in capital letters designed to look like endangered animals, and lists facts on each species, covering their habitats, geographic ranges, threats to survival, and statuses.

Neye, Emily: **All About Cats and Kittens**

Schultz, Sam: **Animal Antics: the beast jokes ever**

A collection of jokes and riddles about all kinds of animals.

Sebel, Syl: **How the U.S. Government Works**

Stephoe, John: **The Story of Jumping Mouse**

The gifts of Magic Frog and his own hopeful and unselfish spirit bring Jumping Mouse finally to the Far-Off Land where no mouse goes hungry.

Swanson, June: **I Pledge Allegiance**

Describes how and why the Pledge of Allegiance was written, how it has changed in wording over the years, and precisely what it means.

Swinburne, Stephen R.: **Bobcat: North America's cat**

Taylor, Barbara: **Oxford First Book of Dinosaurs**

Todd, Traci: **A is for Astronaut: space exploration from A to Z**

Photographs and illustrations help children learn the alphabet by describing a number of things about space including the planets, astronauts and what they wear and eat, space shuttles, and the International Space Station.

VanCleave, Janice: **Play and Find Out about Science**

Walker, Sally M.: **Dolphins**

Wyler, Rose: **Magic Secrets**

Easy magic tricks for the aspiring young magician.

Authors: John F. Prevost, Stuart A. Kallen, Paul O. Zelinsky

NON-FICTION: Series

Carroll, Colleen: **How Artists See**

Hoberman, Mary Ann: **You Read to Me, I'll Read to You**

Various Authors: **First Facts: The Solar System**

Various Authors: **How to Draw series**

Various Authors: **Bugs, Bugs, Bugs**

Various Authors: **American Symbols**

POETRY:

Dakos, Kall: **Mrs. Cole on an Onion Roll and Other School Poems**

Florian, Douglas: **Beast Feast**

George, Kristine O'Connell: **Toasting Marshmallows: camping poems**

Grossman, Bill: **Timothy Tunny Swallowed a Bunny**

Hopkins, Lee Bennett: **Extra Innings Baseball Poems**

Janeczko, Paul B.: **Dirty Laundry Pile: poems in different voices**

Larios, Julie Hofstrand: **Yellow Elephant: a bright bestiary**

Presents a collection of illustrated poems about animals that encourage the reader to see each animal in a new way.

Authors: Brod Bagert, J. Patrick Lewis, Jane Yolen

Student Picks: 1st & 2nd Grade

DiCamillo, Kate: **The Mercy Watson series**

Grey, Mini: **Traction Man is Here!**

Himmelman, John: **Tudley Didn't Know**

Marshall, Edward: **Fox on Wheels**



Grades 3 and 4

A selected book may be one that can be read by the child, with the child, or to the child. You are welcome to choose a title from another grade level to read aloud to your child. The text of many picture books is at an advanced level for older students. Try the ones listed below!

If the suggested title is not available, try another by the same author. At the end of the Grades 3-4 list, look for the most popular books under “Student Picks!” Also, at the end of the K-4 list, you will find selected titles by Connecticut authors.

Students are asked to complete and return a recording sheet(s) to the school’s library media specialist in September.

© LIBRARIAN PICKS!

These books are the librarians’ favorites. Try one!

🎧 AUDIO FORMAT AVAILABLE

These books are available at Scranton Library as a sound cassette, CD, playaway™, or downloadable audiobook. To access the audiobook collection, you must make one trip to Scranton to create a free account. After that, everything can be done remotely at <http://www.scrantonlibrary.org/>.

FICTION: Picture Books

Bunting, Eve:

Fly Away Home, The Wednesday Surprise, The Bones of Fred McFee, The Wall

A boy and his father come from far away to visit the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington and find the name of the boy's grandfather, who was killed in the conflict.

Polacco, Patricia:

Babushka Baba Yaga, Mrs. Katz and Tush, Thank You Mr. Falker, Mr. Lincoln’s Way, The Keeping Quilt

A homemade quilt ties together the lives of four generations of an immigrant Jewish family, remaining a symbol of their enduring love and faith.

Van Allsburg, Chris:

**The Sweetest Fig, Zathura,
The Garden of Abdul Gasazi, The Stranger,
The Wretched Stone, Jumanji, Probuditi!**

Asch, Frank: **Mr. Maxwell's Mouse**

Mr. Maxwell celebrates his promotion by treating himself to a live mouse at the Paw and Claw restaurant; however, his decision leads to disastrous results for himself.

Beaty, Andrea: **Iggy Peck, Architect**

Ever since he was a baby, Iggy Peck has built towers, bridges, and buildings, which come in handy when his second grade class is stranded on an island during a picnic.

Faulkner, Matt: **A Taste of Colored Water**

Curious about the colored water they have heard about coming from a fountain in town, Lulu and Jelly set out to get a taste of it for themselves, but things don't go as planned when the two kids learn what the description really means.

Schotter, Roni: **The Boy who Loved Words**

Selig, who loves words and copies them on pieces of paper that he carries with him, goes on a trip to discover his purpose.

☺Woodson, Jacqueline: **The Other Side**

Two girls, one white and one African-American, gradually get to know each other as they sit on the fence that divides their town.

FICTION: Chapter Books

Cassels, Jean: **The Mysterious Collection of Dr. David Harleyson**

When world-famous artist David Harleyson disappears, his nephew pieces together the clues found on the backs of a group of portraits, which feature characters from Mother Goose, Grimm, and Aesop, to decipher where he went.

☺Clements, Andrew: **No Talking**

The noisy fifth grade boys of Laketon Elementary School challenge the equally loud fifth grade girls to a "no talking" contest.

Delaney, M. C.: **The Great Sockathon**

Sabrina, contacted by a desperate ghost, enlists her friends Megan, Connie, and Daisy to help her mount an ambitious fundraiser in an attempt to keep the dying Balm of Gilead tree in which the ghost girl lives from being cut down.

☺☺ DiCamillo, Kate: **The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane**

Edward Tulane, a cold-hearted and proud toy rabbit, loves only himself until he is separated from the little girl who adores him and travels across the country, acquiring new owners and listening to their hopes, dreams, and histories.

Downer, Ann: **The Dragon of Never-Was**

Sequel to **Hatching Magic**. With the help of a bottle of blue fire and a magical brooch, Theodora searches for a dragon on an island off the coast of Scotland before it causes any harm.

D'Lacey, Chris: **Fire Star**

College student David Rain travels with his girlfriend and professor to the Arctic, where they must stop an ancient race called the Fain from awakening Gawain, a dormant dragon with the potential to change the environment.

Fellowes, Julian: **The Curious Adventures of the Abandoned Toys**

When Doc the bear arrives at the dump from his former home, he isn't sure about what awaits him but his new friends are determined to make his new home a welcoming one.

Fox, Helen: **Eager's Nephew**

In a world which has banned self-aware robots, Eager and his brilliant but headstrong nephew, Jonquil, come out of hiding to visit the Bell family, and soon become involved in the mysterious and dangerous events surrounding them and their friends.

Hale, Shannon: **Princess Academy**

While attending a strict academy for potential princesses with the other girls from her mountain village, fourteen-year-old Miri discovers unexpected talents and connections to her homeland.

Jenkins, Emily: **Toys Go Out: being the adventures of a knowledgeable stingray, a toughy little buffalo, and someone called plastic**
Six stories relate the adventures of three best friends, who happen to be toys.

Korman, Gordon: **Swindle**
After unscrupulous collector S. Wendell Palamino cons him out of a valuable baseball card, sixth-grader Griffin Bing puts together a band of misfits to break into Palomino's heavily guarded store and steal the card back; planning to use the money to finance his father's failing invention, the Smart Pick fruit picker.

Potter, Ellen: **Olivia Kidney**
Twelve-year-old Olivia explores her new apartment building and finds a psychic, talking lizards, a shrunken ex-pirate, an exiled princess, ghosts, and other unusual characters.

St. George, Judith: **The Ghost, The White House and Me**
When eleven-year-old KayKay Granger learns that the White House is haunted and uses that knowledge to play a prank on her family, she lands in big trouble with her mother, the United States President.

Selznick, Brian: **The Invention of Hugo Cabret: a novel in words and pictures**
When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toy seller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized.

Weeks, Sarah: **Oggie Cooder**
Quirky fourth-grader Oggie Cooder goes from being shunned to everyone's best friend when his uncanny ability to chew slices of cheese into the shapes of states wins him a slot on a popular television talent show, but he soon learns the perils of being a celebrity--and having a neighbor girl as his manager.

FICTION: Series

Baglio, Ben M.: **Animal Ark**

Barrows Annie: **Ivy + Bean**

Coville, Bruce: **Moongobble and Me**

Greenberg, Dan: **Zack Files**

☺ Gutman, Dan: **Baseball Card Adventures series**

Gutman, Dan: **My Weird School**

Korman, Gordon: **Island; Dive; Everest**

Mazer, Anne: **The Amazing Days of Abby Hayes**

Pennypacker, Sara: **Clementine**

☺ Riordan, Rick: **Percy Jackson and the Olympians**

📖 Sachar, Louis: **Sideways Stories from Wayside School**

Scieszka, Jon: **The Time Warp Trio**

Stilton, Geronimo: **Various Titles**

Van Draanen, Wendelin: **Shredderman**

Winkler, Henry: **Hank Zipzer**

Various Authors: **American Girl**

Authors: Judy Blume, Matt Christopher, Beverly Cleary, Roald Dahl, Andrew Clements, Gary Paulsen, Judith St. George



NON-FICTION: General (includes folktales)

☺ Adler, David A: **Calculator Riddles**

By solving math problems on a calculator and turning it upside down to view the answer, riddles can be solved in this collection of calculator riddles.

Agee, Jon: **Palindromania!**

Presents illustrations, comic strips, and monologues that all revolve around palindromes--words or phrases that read the same backward and forward.

🎷 Dillon, Leo: **Jazz on a Saturday Night**

A crowd gathers on a Saturday night to groove to an evening of jazz played by a "Dream Team" of musicians including Miles Davis on trumpet, Max Roach on drums, Charlie Parker on alto saxophone, John Coltrane on his sax, Thelonius Monk on piano, Stanley Parker on bass, and Ella Fitzgerald at the microphone.

Donkin, Andrew: **Atlantis: The Lost City?**

Presents the story of Atlantis, the legendary lost island, and debates whether or not it really existed.

Donkin, Andrew: **Bermuda Triangle**

Explores the mysteries and legends associated with the Bermuda Triangle, an area in the Atlantic Ocean bounded by Bermuda, Florida, and Puerto Rico, where hundreds of boats and planes have vanished.

Gutman, Dan: **Casey Back at Bat**

Presents a humorous sequel to Ernest Lawrence Thayer's classic "Casey at the Bat" with colorful illustrations and rhyming text.

Jenkins, Steve: **Living Color**

Looks at a wide range of colorful animals, describing how their feathers, scales, shells, and skin help them survive, warn predators, signal friends, attract a mate, or hide from their enemies.

Morse, Jenifer Coor: **Scholastic Book of World Records, 2008**

Names over three hundred world records in such categories as science, nature, business, sports, and pop culture, and features full-color photographs.

☺ Pye, Claire: **The Wild World of the Future**
Companion book to the Discovery Channel series: **The Future is Wild**. Based on evolutionary and biological principles, scientists explore what animals and the earth will look like in 5 million years, 100 million years, and 200 million years.

Authors: Russell Freedman, Jean Fritz, David Maccauly, Patrick O'Brien

NON-FICTION: Series

Jones, Jen: **Snap Books: Cheerleading**

Various authors: **Native American Life**

Various authors: **Edge Books: War Planes**

Various authors: **Inside the NFL**

POETRY:

Dakos, Kalli: **If You're Not Here, Please Raise Your Hand: poems about school**

Fleischman, Paul: **Joyful Noise**

Fletcher, Ralph J: **Moving Day**

Fletcher Ralph: **Relatively Speaking Poems about Family**

Florian, Douglas: **Insectlopedia**

Authors: Jack Prelutsky, Shel Silverstein



Student Picks for grades 3 and 4 and Books by Connecticut Authors are on the next page.

Student Picks: 3rd & 4th Grade

Abbott, Tony: **Secrets of Droon series**

Dahl, Roald: **The Witches**

Farley, Walter: **The Black Stallion**

Horowitz, Anthony: **Alex Rider series**

Hunter, Erin: **The Warriors series**

McCaughrean, Geraldine: **Peter Pan in Scarlet**

Robertson, Bruce: **Marguerite Makes a Book**

Books by Connecticut Authors

Davis, Katie: **Party Animals, Who Hops?**

Giff, Patricia Reilly: **Pictures of Hollis Woods, Kids of the Polk Street series**

Hoberman, Mary Ann: **Seven Silly Eaters**

Kline, Suzy: **Herbie Jones Series, Horrible Harry series**

Wallace, Nancy Elizabeth: **The Kindness Quilt**

Wells, Rosemary: **Noisy Nora, McDuff series, Yoko's Paper Cranes**



Connecticut Nutmeg Children's Book Award

The Nutmeg Book Award encourages children in grades 4-6 to read quality literature and to choose their favorite from a list of ten nominated titles. Jointly sponsored by the Connecticut Library Association (CLA) and the Connecticut Association of School Librarians (CASL), the Nutmeg Committee is comprised of children's librarians, school library media specialists, teachers, and student readers.

All books nominated for the award must be:

1. A work of fiction, with appeal for readers in grades 4-6;
2. Written by an author who currently resides in the United States;
3. Copyrighted in the United States, and first published no more than five years from date of selection;
4. Currently in print, and available in paper back as well as hard cover;
5. Well-written, with strong characterization, a vivid setting, striking language, a well-constructed plot, and a plausible conclusion.

(Adapted from <http://www.nutmegaward.org/>)

*****Parents are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the books in order to help your child make an age appropriate selection.**



The 2009 Nominees for Grades 4 - 6:

Blood on the River by Elisa Carbone

As page to Captain John Smith, 11 year-old Samuel Collier witnesses the dealings of the Virginia Company, the Powhatan tribe, and even young Pocahontas during the early days of the colonial settlement at Jamestown, Virginia.

Close Encounters of a Third World Kind by Jennifer J. Stewart

12 year-old Annie's world is turned upside when her father agrees to move the entire family to Nepal on a medical mission. She makes new friends, learns some important lessons, and has adventures that change her life.

Eager by Helen Fox

Would you like to live in the future where robots do all the work? All Gavin and Fleur wanted was a normal robot. Instead they have Eager, who creates more problems than he solves.

Free Baseball by Sue Corbett

Desperate to connect with his absent father, 11 year-old Felix becomes the batboy for a minor league baseball team in the hope of learning more about his famous father's game.

Golden and Grey by Louise Arnold

Tom escapes the school bullies by teaming up with an invisible ghost.

Gossamer by Lois Lowry

This haunting story explores the mystery of dreams. Littlest One, a young Dreamgiver, tries to stop the frightening Sinisteds from delivering nightmares.

The Homework Machine by Dan Gutman

Who wouldn't love a machine that does homework for you? Can four unlikely friends keep the biggest secret of their lives?

MVP * Magellan Voyage Project by Douglas Evans

Adam Story is chosen as a player in the MVP challenge. To win the four million dollar prize, Adam must circle the world in forty days - no flying allowed. Competing against other players through time zones and across continents, he faces danger and unknown risks. Get ready for the trip of a lifetime.

Shakespeare's Secret by Elise Broach

When Hero starts sixth grade at a new school, she meets Danny Cardova, the most popular boy. They work together to solve the mystery of the missing million dollar diamond that's hidden somewhere in Hero's house.

Three Good Deeds by Vivian Vande Velde

Howard's troublemaking backfires when he steals the eggs of a goose belonging to a witch. The witch gives him a dose of his own medicine! Maybe life as a prankster isn't all it's quacked up to be.

Connecticut Nutmeg Children's Book Award

Former Winners for Grades 4 - 6:

2008 Riordan, Rick: **The Lightning Thief**

2007 Harlow, Joan Hiatt: **Thunder From the Sea**

🌀 2006 DuPrau, Jeanne: **The City of Ember**

2005 Bruchac, Joseph: **Skeleton Man**

2004 Gutman, Dan: **Babe and Me**

🌀 2003 DiCamillo, Kate: **Because of Winn
Dixie**

2002 Haddix, Margaret Peterson: **Among the
Hidden**

2001 Wardlee, Lee: **101 Ways to Bug your
Parents**

2000 Gutman, Dan: **Million Dollar Shot**

Nutmeg Book Discussion

Grades 4 – 6

Scranton Memorial Library

Mondays, 6:30 – 7:30

- June 23** **Eager**
By Helen Fox
- July 7** **Shakespeare’s Secret**
By Elise Broach
- July 14** **Blood On the River: James Town
1607**
By Elisa Carbone
- July 21** **Three Good Deeds**
By Vivian Van Velde
- July 28** **MVP – Magellan Project**
By Douglas Evans
- August 4** **Homework Machine**
By Dan Gutman
- August 11** **Golden and Grey: An
Unremarkable Boy and a Rather
Remarkable Ghost**
By John Fardell
- August 18** **Close Encounters of a Third-
World Kind**
By Jennifer J. Stewart
- August 25** **Free Baseball**
By Sue Corbett
- September 8** **Gossamer**
By Lois Lowry

Madison Public Schools' Summer Reading List
Grades K – 4 RECORDING SHEET

Please return this form to your Library Media Specialist no later than the first week of September 2008.
Use additional lined paper if necessary.

Student Name: _____ Total Number of Titles Read _____

Teacher's Name: _____

Please circle: **Boy** or **Girl** / Grade in September: **K** **1** **2** **3** **4**

AUTHOR	TITLE
#1	
#2	
#3	
#4	
#5	
#6	
#7	

#8	
#9	
#10	
#11	
#12	
#13	
#14	
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#21	
#22	
#23	
#24	
#25	
#26	
#27	
#28	
#29	

2008 Summer Reading Grades 5-8

General Instructions

On the following pages is the suggested Summer Reading List for students entering Grades 5-8 in the fall of 2008. Books used for core instruction during the school year are not on this list. **Students in grades 5 and 6 are encouraged to read at least five books this summer. Students in grades 7 and 8 are encouraged to read a minimum of four books, at least one of which must come from the list that specifies required reading.** Students must complete the recording sheet that can be found at the end of the list. **Please return the sheets to the Language Arts / English teacher in September.**

While the summer reading list should serve as a guide, reading need not be limited to these titles, except for the required reading noted above. If the suggested book title is not available, try another by the same author. Students are encouraged to read from a variety of genre, and additional authors are listed for each. Reading ability varies; therefore, students are welcome to choose a title from another grade level, if it seems appropriate. The library media specialists, classroom teachers, and reading teachers in each school, as well as the librarians at Scranton Library, will be happy to assist you in choosing the best books to read. A list of periodicals is included as part of this summer reading booklet, and students are encouraged to enjoy this form of reading. Any magazine that you read regularly throughout the summer or any graphic novel you read will be considered one of the works. Graphic novels can be found in the 741.593 section in the Children's Department and in a special collection in the Teen Department of Scranton Library. Madison Summer Reading Lists are available online at www.madison.k12.ct.us and at Scranton Library and local bookstores.

Assessments for Grades 7 and 8

Each student is expected to complete summer reading before school begins. When you begin your English class, you should be prepared for some type of assessment on the book that you read from the list of **required reading for grades 7 and 8** that follows. **Please see the Grades 7 and 8 section for the list of required books and information about the assessment.**

Suggested Periodicals

The Hartford Courant	Teen Ink	Justine
National Geographic	Time	Newsweek
Electronic Gaming Monthly	Transworld Skateboarding	

Helpful Web Sites

Scranton Library Children's Section
www.scrantonlibrary.org/children

Scranton Library Teen Section
www.scrantonlibrary.org/teens

Novelist (Go to Research)
www.scrantonlibrary.org

Best Books for Young Adults
www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists/bbya

Connecticut Nutmeg Award
<http://www.nutmegaward.org/>

Guys Read
(Website of First Children's Book Laureate: Jon Scieszka)
<http://www.guysread.com/>

Summer Programs at Scranton Memorial Library

Nutmeg Discussion Groups for Grades 4 - 6 will meet from 6:30 to 7:30 on Mondays, June 23 through September 8.

Nutmeg Discussion Groups for Grades 7 - 8 will meet from 7:00 to 8:00 on Tuesdays, July 1 through September 2.

Register for the Nutmeg Programs at Scranton Memorial Library. Details can be found at the end of the Nutmeg lists that follow the Summer Reading List.

Catch the Reading Bug: Summer Reading Program
Registration begins on Monday June 16 at Scranton Memorial Library. Each half hour you read takes you on an adventurous journey on our game board.
(Grades K - 6)

Teen Summer Reading Incentive: Win a Video Ipod at Scranton Library this summer!
Register to earn raffle tickets for every 100 pages read throughout the summer. A raffle drawing will be held for prizes such as DVDs, gift certificates, and the grand prize – a video Ipod! (Grades 7 - 12)

Check the Scranton Library website, www.scrantonlibrary.org/teens, for the schedule of movies, book discussions, and programs specifically for students in grades 7-12!

Grades 5 and 6

All students are asked to read at least **five** books. If the suggested title is not available, try another by the same author. At the end of the Grades 5-6 list, look for the most popular books under "Student Picks!" Also, at the end of the 5-6 list, you will find selected titles by Connecticut authors.

Students are asked to return their recording sheets to their language arts teachers who will in turn forward them to the library media specialist during library orientation classes at the beginning of the year.

☺ **MRS. HEIMER'S PICKS!**

These books are some of my favorites. Try some!

🔗 **AUDIO FORMAT AVAILABLE**

These books are available at Scranton Library as a sound cassette, CD, playaways™, or downloadable audiobook. To access the audiobook collection, you must make one trip to Scranton to create a free account. After that, everything can be done remotely at <http://www.scrantonlibrary.org/>.

FICTION: Realistic / Contemporary/Adventure – Stories about people like you and me.

Bauer, Marion Dane: **A Bear Named Trouble**

Jonathan, a ten year old with a passion for animals, is devastated when a brown bear kills his favorite animal at the zoo in Anchorage, Alaska. He vows to get even with the bear, and then finds revenge isn't all it's cracked up to be.

Connor, Leslie: **Waiting for Normal**

Twelve-year-old Addie tries to cope with her mother's erratic behavior and being separated from her beloved stepfather and half-sisters when she and her mother go to live in a small trailer by the railroad tracks on the outskirts of Schenectady, New York.

Creech, Sharon: **Replay**

While preparing for a role in the school play, twelve-year-old Leo finds an autobiography that his father wrote as a teenager and ponders the ways people change. Includes the text for the play, "Rumpopo's Porch."

☺ Holland, Robert: **Spooks, A Charles Oliver Jones Mystery**

Charles Oliver Jones fancies himself a private investigator. A new mystery arises when his next door neighbor dies and Charlie begins to think she was murdered. People begin to show up looking for something in her house. The question is what are they looking for and can Charles Oliver Jones find it first?

Kehret, Peg: **Escaping the Giant Wave**

When an earthquake creates a tsunami while thirteen-year-old Kyle is babysitting his sister during a family vacation at a Pacific Coast resort, he tries to save himself, his sister, and a boy who has bullied him for years. Includes an author's note which provides factual information on tsunamis.

☺ Kinney, Jeff. **Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Roderick rules**

Greg Heffley tells about his summer vacation and his attempts to steer clear of trouble when he returns to middle school and tries to keep his older brother, Rodrick, from telling everyone about Greg's most humiliating experience of the summer.

Klise, Kate. **Regarding the Bees: a lesson, in letters, on honey, dating, and other sticky subjects**

The seventh graders at Geyser Creek Middle School are preparing for a spelling bee and a horrible standardized test called the BEE, and try to smuggle their mascot--a bee that spells--into the local spelling competition.

Ritter, John: **The Boy Who Saved Baseball**

The fate of a small California town rests on the outcome of one baseball game, and Tom Gallagher hopes to lead his team to victory with the secrets of the now disgraced player, Dante Del Gato.

Sachar, Louis: **Small Steps**

Three years after being released from Camp Green Lake, Armpit is trying hard to keep his life on track, but when his old pal X-Ray shows up with a tempting plan to make some easy money scalping concert tickets, Armpit reluctantly goes along.

Schmidt, Gary D.: **The Wednesday Wars**

During the 1967 school year, on Wednesday afternoons when all his classmates go to either Catechism or Hebrew school, seventh-grader Holling Hoodhood stays in Mrs. Baker's classroom where they read the plays of William Shakespeare and Holling learns much of value about the world he lives in.

☺ Spinelli, Jerry: **Love, Stargirl**

Still moping months after being dumped by her Arizona boyfriend Leo, fifteen-year-old Stargirl, a home-schooled free spirit, writes "the world's longest letter" to Leo, describing her new life in Pennsylvania.

☺ Skelton, Michael: **Endymion Spring**

Having reluctantly accompanied his academic mother and pesky younger sister to Oxford, twelve-year-old Blake Winters is at loose ends until he stumbles across an ancient and magical book, secretly brought to England in 1453 by Gutenberg's mute apprentice to save it from evil forces, and which now draws Blake into a dangerous and life-threatening quest.

Van Draanen, Wendelin: **Shredderman: secret identity**

Fifth-grader Nolan Byrd, tired of being called names by the class bully, has a secret identity--Shredderman!

Woodson, Jacqueline: **Feathers**

When a new, white student nicknamed "The Jesus Boy" joins her sixth grade class in the winter of 1971, Frannie's growing friendship with him makes her start to see some things in a new light.

Authors: Louisa May Alcott, Sharon Creech, Robert Holland, Lois Lowry, Patricia Polacco, Emily Rodda, Linda Sue Park, Daniel Pinkwater

FICTION: Fantasy / Science Fiction - Stories about other worlds or worlds in the future.

Armstrong, Alan: **Raleigh's Page**

In the late 16th century, fifteen-year-old Andrew leaves school in England and must prove himself as a page to Sir Walter Raleigh before embarking for Virginia, where he helps to establish relations with the Indians.

🔍 Avi: **The Book without Words**

Thorston, an alchemist who has spent his life trying to decipher the secret to immortality contained in the Book Without Words, is on the brink of realizing his dream when he drops dead, leaving Odo, a talking raven, and Sybil, a servant who was about to be sacrificed to Thorston's plan, to reap the rewards of his work.

☺ Booth, Martin: **Soul Stealer**

Pip and her twin brother, Tim, join forces again with Sebastian, the alchemist's son they awakened from a centuries-long slumber, to fight against an evil magician who learns people's deepest secrets in order to control their souls.

☺ Colfer, Eoin: **Artemis Fowl: the lost colony**

Teenager Artemis Fowl solves a temporal equation that helps him and Captain Holly Short track fairy demons who are appearing from another dimension, but there is another person who has figured out the formula and abducts one of the beings.

DuPrau, Jeanne: **The Prophet of Yonwood**

While visiting the small town of Yonwood, North Carolina, eleven-year-old Nickie makes some decisions about how to identify both good and evil when she witnesses the townspeople's reactions to the apocalyptic visions of one of their neighbors.

☺ Funke, Cornelia: **Inkspell**

Sequel to **Inkheart**. When Dustfinger finds a crooked storyteller who can read him back to Inkscape, he leaves his apprentice Farid behind; but Farid seeks out Meggie and the two follow him back into the enchanted book.

☺ Hale, Shannon: **Book of a Thousand Days**

Fifteen-year-old Dashti, sworn to obey her sixteen-year-old mistress, the Lady Saren, shares Saren's years of punishment locked in a tower, then brings her safely to the lands of her true love, where both must hide who they are as they work as kitchen maids.

Higson, Charles: **Silverfin: a James Bond adventure**

Young James Bond attends school at the prestigious Eton boarding school, and teams up with Red to investigate the mystery of the disappearance of a boy. Alfie Kelly, Red's cousin, is allegedly linked to a madman with a plot for global domination.

Jacques, Brian: **Eulalia**

Lord Asheye of Salamandastron has a prophecy: a new Badger Lord must take his place and reign over the legendary badger fortress. Maude Maudie, a feisty haremaid of the Long Patrol, is just the one to track down this young warrior.

☺ Park, Linda Sue, et al.: **Click**

Stories within a story, written as separate chapters by a number of noted authors who each contribute to the life of the mysterious George "Gee" Keane, photographer, soldier, and adventurer.

Paulsen, Gary: **The Time Hackers**

When someone uses futuristic technology to play pranks on twelve-year-old Dorso Clayman, he and his best friend set off on a supposedly impossible journey through space and time trying to stop the gamesters who are endangering the universe.

☺ Pullman, Phillip: **The Golden Compass**

Accompanied by her daemon, Lyra Belacqua sets out to prevent her best friend and other kidnapped children from becoming the subject of gruesome experiments in the Far North.

☺ Rowling, J.K.: **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows**

Sequel to: Harry Potter and the half-blood prince. Follows the journey of the series' protagonist Harry Potter as he attempts to bring an end to his archenemy, Lord Voldemort.

Riordan, Rick: **The Lightning Thief**

Percy, expelled from six schools for being unable to control his temper, learns the truth from his mother that his father is the Greek god Poseidon, and is sent to Camp Half Blood where he is befriended by a satyr and the demigod daughter of Athena who join him in a journey to the Underworld to retrieve Zeus's lightning bolt and prevent a catastrophic war.

☺ Scott, Michael: **The Alchemyst: the secrets of the immortal Nicholas Flamel**

Fifteen-year-old twins, Sophie and Josh, find themselves caught up in the deadly struggle between rival alchemists, Nicholas Flamel and John Dee, over the possession of an ancient book that holds the secret formulas for alchemy and everlasting life.

Seidler, Tor: **Brainboy and the Deathmaster**

When Darryl, a twelve-year-old orphan, is adopted by a technology genius, he finds himself the star of his very own life-threatening video game.

Series: Baum, Frank S.: **The Oz Books**

DiTerlizzi, Tony :**Spiderwick Chronicles**

Rowling, J.K.: **The Harry Potter Books**

Authors: E.D. Baker, Eoin Colfer, Lemony Snicket, Roald Dahl, Eva Ibbotsen, Garth Nix, T.H. White, Laurence Yep, Jane Yolen

FICTION: Mystery / Suspense – Stories about things unknown and sometimes scary.

☺ Fardell, John: **The Flight of the Silver Turtle**

Ben, Zara, Sam, and Marcia begin their summer vacation by helping Professor Ampersand and a new friend build the Silver Turtle, a futuristic airplane, but on the day the first test flight is planned, a strange woman steals the airplane with the children inside.

Feinstein, John: **Cover-up**

Two teenagers learn that every player on a professional football team--which is supposed to play in the Super Bowl--has failed their drug test and the owner has covered up the results, and now they must find a way to prove it.

☺ ☺ Hiaasen, Carl: **Flush**

With their father jailed for sinking a river boat, Noah Underwood and his younger sister, Abbey, must gather evidence that the owner of this floating casino is emptying his bilge tanks into the protected waters around their Florida Keys home.

Higgins, F. E.: **The Black Book of Secrets**

When Ludlow Fitch runs away from his thieving parents in the City, he meets up with the mysterious Joe Zabbidou, who calls himself a secret pawnbroker, and who takes Ludlow as an apprentice to record the confessions of the townspeople of Pagus Parvus, where resentments are many and trust is scarce.

Hergé.: **The Adventures of Tin Tin**

A wildly popular series of global adventures of a boy and his dog, Fluffy. Tin Tin has been translated into dozens of languages.

☺ Holland, Robert: **AMOK!**

The Spooks and the hoods are back on Martha's Vineyard and Charles Olive Jones is right in the middle as always, only this time the hoods are represented by a man named Orsina, the Boston crime boss, who has decided to retire to Martha's Vineyard. He calls on Charlie because he believes he has seen an Amok and wants Charlie's help. The spooks are after the papers left to Charlie's father by Abby and Henry Waters, perhaps the two most accomplished spies the country ever produced. This time they the ante has been raised. And, of course, there is the matter of the last high school football game that Charlie and Pete will ever play and this one is for the state championship.

Horowitz, Anthony: **Snakehead**

Alex Rider crash lands off the coast of Australia where he is recruited by the Australian Secret Service to infiltrate one of the ruthless gangs operating across South East Asia, and in the midst of his dangerous mission, Alex discovers information about his parents' murder.

☺ Sedgewick, Marcus: **My Swordhand is Singing**

In the dangerous dark of winter in an Eastern European village during the early seventeenth century, Peter learns from a gypsy girl that the Shadow Queen is behind the recent murders and reanimations, and his father's secret past may hold the key to stopping her.

☺ VanAllsburg, Chris: **Probuditi!**

On his birthday, Calvin and his friend Rodney see a magician perform, then copy him by hypnotizing Calvin's little sister, but the joke is on them when they are unable to snap her out of it.

Series: Herge: **Tintin Books**
Holland, Robert: **Mysteries for Boys**

Authors: David A. Adler, Cynthia C. DeFelice, Bruce Hale, Odo Hirsch, Robert Holland, James Howe, Gloria Skurzynski

FICTION: Historical – Stories set in times/ places long ago.

☺ Blackwood, Gary: **The Shakespeare Stealer**

A young orphan boy is ordered by his master to infiltrate Shakespeare's acting troupe in order to steal the script of "Hamlet," but he discovers instead the meaning of friendship and loyalty.

☺ Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker: **The Lacemaker and the Princess**

Eleven-year-old Isabelle, living with her lacemaker grandmother and mother near the palace of Versailles in 1788, becomes close friends with Marie Antoinette's daughter, Princess Therese, and finds their relationship complicated not only by their different social class but by the growing political unrest and resentment of the French people.

Bruchac, Joseph: **Code Talker: a novel about the Navajo marines of World War II**

After being taught in a boarding school run by whites that Navajo is a useless language, Ned Begay and other Navajo men are recruited by the Marines to become Code Talkers, sending messages during World War II in their native tongue.

Choldenko, Gennifer: **Al Capone Does My Shirts**

A twelve-year-old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935 when guards' families were housed there, and has to contend with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister.

Crisp, Marty: **White Star: a dog on the Titanic**

Twelve-year-old Sam, a passenger on the Titanic's maiden sea voyage, volunteers to help care for the dogs in the ocean liner's kennel and becomes fast friends with the Irish setter of J. Bruce Ismay, the ship's owner.

Curtis, Christopher Paul: **Elijah of Buxton**

Eleven-year-old Elijah Freeman, the first free-born child in Buxton, Canada, which is a haven for slaves fleeing the American South in 1859, uses his wits and skills to try to bring to justice the lying preacher who has stolen money that was to be used to buy a family's freedom.

☺ Ferris, Jean: **Underground**

Charlotte Brown, a slave who is a maid at Mammoth Cave Hotel in 1839, is drawn to the adventurous spirit of eighteen-year-old tour guide Stephen Bishop, a slave whose knowledge of the Kentucky cave system has given him a measure of freedom, and she hopes her trust in him is not misplaced when she learns that runaway slaves are arriving at the hotel in need of help.

Gosciny, R. and Uderzo, A.: **Asterix and Obelix All at Sea**
After Obelix drinks a potion that turns him to stone, Asterix sets out to find a cure, and along the way he finds himself on the continent of Atlantis.

☺ Lawrence, Caroline: **Charioteer of Delphi**

Flavia and her friends go to Rome to celebrate the Festival of Jupiter at Senator Cornix's town house, where they befriend the young charioteer, Scopas, and quickly find themselves embroiled in a campaign to sabotage one of the rival racing factions.

☺ Paver, Michelle: **Chronicles of Ancient Darkness: spirit walker**

When a deadly illness begins to afflict the clans, twelve-year-old Torak, with help from Renn and Wolf, embarks on a journey to find a cure.

Schlitz, Laura Amy: **Good Masters! Sweet Ladies!: voices from a medieval village**

Using a series of interconnected monologues and dialogues featuring young people living in and around an English manor in 1255, she offers first-person character sketches that build upon each other to create a finer understanding of medieval life. Each of the 23 characters (between 10 and 15 years old) has a distinct personality and a societal role revealed not by recitation of facts but by revelation of memories, intentions, and attitudes.

🦋 Schmidt, Gary D.: **Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy**

In 1911, Turner Buckminster hates his new home of Phippsburg, Maine, but things improve when he meets Lizzie Bright Griffin, a girl from a poor, nearby island community founded by former slaves that the town fathers--and Turner's--want to change into a tourist spot.

☺ Scieszka, Jon: **Oh Say, I Can't See**

After arriving in Pennsylvania during the winter of 1776, time travelers Joe, Fred, and Samantha inspire General George Washington, "the man on the one dollar bill," to carry out a surprise attack on Hessian troops in Trenton, New Jersey, that will change the course of the Revolutionary War.

Selznick, Brian.: **The Invention of Hugo Cabret**

When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toymaker and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized.

Wall Patricia Q.: **Child Out of Place: a story for New England**

Just because she has her freedom documents, doesn't make her the same as white folks, and she won't be protected from kidnapping slavers either, Matty's great uncle tells her. A sheltered servant child finally must face reality and learn the full story of her ancestors. Through Matty, we learn some of the mostly hidden chapter of slavery in New England and gain insight into an era never mentioned in schoolbooks.

Woodruff, Elvira: **The Ravenmaster's Secret: escape from the Tower of London**

The eleven-year-old son of the Ravenmaster at the Tower of London befriends a Jacobite rebel being held prisoner there.

Woodson, Jacqueline: **Show Way**

A mother passes on the tradition of making quilts, or "Show ways", that serve as secret maps for freedom seeking slaves.

Series: Scholastic Publisher: **Dear America, Royal Diaries**

Authors: Betsy Byars, Karen Cushman, Marguerite De Angeli, Patricia Reilly Giff, Patricia Hermes, Karen Hesse, Mary Hooper, Kathryn Lasky, Donna Jo Napoli, Gary Paulsen, Ann Rinaldi, Cynthia Rylant, Jean Van Leeuwen, Gloria Whelan.

NON-FICTION: Biography, Autobiography, Memoir – Stories about real people.

Dahl, Roald: **Boy: tales of childhood**

Presents humorous anecdotes from the author's childhood, including his summer vacations in Norway and life at an English boarding school.

Fleischman, John: **Phineas Gage: a gruesome but true story about brain science**

The true story of Phineas Gage, whose brain had been pierced by an iron rod in 1848, and who survived and became a case study in how the brain functions.

Harrison, Paul: **David Beckham**

Presents a short biography of British soccer star David Beckham, and chronicles his childhood in England, early interest in sports, and successful career in professional soccer.

Hawk, Tony: **Hawk: occupation: skateboarder**

Internationally known American skateboarding champ Tony Hawk chronicles his life and his very eventful involvement with the sport.

Mahaney, Ian.: **Kevin Jones: snowboarding champion**

Presents a short biography of snowboarding champion Kevin Jones describing his childhood in California and his entrance into professional snowboarding as well as his gold-medal win at the 2001 Winter X Games.

☺ Ntozake Shange: **Ellington was Not a Street**

Presents an illustrated poem in which Ntozake Shange recalls her childhood growing up in the company of W.E.B. Du Bois, Dizzy Gillespie, Paul Robeson, and other great African-American men who were instrumental in changing American culture and society.

Savage, Jeff: **Yao Ming: basketball's big man**

Presents a children's biography on Houston Rockets center Yao Ming who was drafted in 2002 and brought to the United States from China to play in the NBA.

☺ Sis, Peter: **The Tree of Life: a book depicting the life of Charles Darwin, naturalist, geologist & thinker**

Presents the life of the famous nineteenth-century naturalist using text from Darwin's writings and detailed drawings by Sis.

Thimmesh, Catherine: **Madam President**

An introduction to women, some better known than others, who have influenced politics and policies in the United States and in the world.

☺ Winter, Jeannette: **The Librarian of Basra: A True Story from Iraq**

During the Iraq War of 2003, librarian Alia Muhammad saves thirty thousand new and old books in her Basra library from destruction.

Authors: James Lincoln Collier, Tomie De Paola, Dennis B. Fradin, Jean Fritz, Nikki Grimes, Eric A. Kimmel, Walter Dean Myers, Andrea Davis Pinkney, Diane Stanley

GENERAL:

Adams, Brian: **Medieval Castles**

Describes the various types of castles that were built during the Middle Ages, why they were built, how they were defended, and the daily lives of those who lived in the castle.

Anderson, Neil: **Music Madness**

Explores aspects of the making and marketing of popular music and discusses why and how to think critically about its messages.

Boonyadhistarn, Thiranut: **Stamping Art**

Presents step-by-step instruction for stamping projects, and includes directions on making stamps from household supplies.

Bulion, Leslie: **Hey There, Stink Bug!**

Uses poetic text to describe various types of insects, and includes a glossary of terms and notes on poetic forms.

☺ Freedman, Russell: **Who Was First?**

Examines the evidence that indicates others may have traveled to the Americas before Columbus in 1492 including Viking ruins, Mayan stonework, and other mysterious objects found in New England that date before Columbus.

Goldish, Meish: **The Fossil Feud**

Recounts the rivalry between two competing paleontologists Othniel Charles Marsh and Edward Drinker Cope, and how their bitter feud eventually destroyed their careers.

Hoffman, Mary Ann: **Hurricane Katrina**

Examines the effects of Hurricane Katrina which hit parts of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama in August of 2005; and contains a number of facts about hurricanes.

Houghton, Gillian: **Guts: The Digestive System**

Illustrations and simple text teach young students how the digestive system works, describes the functions and makeup of the mouth, esophagus, stomach, intestines, and glands.

Koll, Hilary: **Using Math to Design a Roller Coaster**

Examines the importance of math in designing roller coasters, and uses that format to foster an understanding of numbers, measurements, shapes, charts, and diagrams. Includes data-gathering and problem solving.

Lappi, Megan: **The Sahara Desert: the largest desert in the world**

Photographs and text provide an introduction to the Sahara Desert, the largest desert in the world, looking at its location, how it formed, the desert's climate, plants, people, and animals, the history of exploration, and the dangers posed by desertification.

Leardi, Jeanette: **The Great Pyramid: Egypt's tomb for all time**

Explores the three pyramids of Giza including the Great Pyramid, who built them and why, the process of mummification, and archaeological efforts to unlock the secrets of the pharaohs.

Lunis, Natalie: **A T. Rex Named Sue: Sue Hendrickson's huge discovery**

Describes the discovery and excavation of the famous Tyrannosaurus named Sue, and explains how the dinosaur came to belong to the Chicago Field Museum.

Mehlman, Barbara: **Babysitting Jobs: the business of babysitting**

Offers advice to prospective baby-sitters on how to find and keep jobs, sharing ideas for gaining experience, getting hired, making a good impression, getting paid, and expanding the business.

Millard, Anne: **World of Pyramids**

Photographs, illustrations, maps, and text describe the pyramids of Egypt, how and why they were built, how the pharaohs were prepared for burial, daily life in Egypt, and other pyramids worldwide.

Morris, Ting: **No-Cook Cookery**

Provides step-by-step instructions for making a variety of no-cook recipes, including muesli, cheese boats, coconut bars, frozen fruit pops, and other snacks and drinks, and includes food-related facts.

Myers, Walter Dean: **Jazz**

A collection of illustrated poems that celebrate the roots and various styles of jazz music, such as ragtime, bebop, and swing.

O'Connor, Jane: **The Emperor's Silent Army: terracotta warriors of ancient China**

Describes the archaeological discovery of thousands of life-sized terracotta warrior statues in northern China in 1974, and discusses the emperor who had them created and placed near his tomb.

Riffin, Frances E.: **Medical Detective Dogs**

Describes a number of canine medical detectives discussing how various dogs are trained to detect certain types of cancer or know when their owners are having a diabetic or epileptic seizure.

Sepehri, Sandy: **How the Peacock Got Its Feathers: based on a Mayan tale**

Presents an ancient Mayan folktale that describes how the peacock got its beautiful feathers.

Sereno, Paul C.: **SuperCroc: Paul Sereno's dinosaur eater**

Follows paleontologist Paul Sereno as he unearths the fossil remains of a giant crocodile in the African country of Niger; and contains facts about how this giant animal lived during prehistoric times.

Spadaccini, Stephanie: **The big book of rules: board games, kids' games, card games, from backgammon and bocce to tiddlywinks and stickball**

Contains entries that explain the rules for more than three hundred games, each with information on equipment, number of players, the object of the game, setup, and variations; grouped by category.

Woodson, Jacqueline: **Locomotion**

Inspired by his teacher, eleven-year-old Lonnie begins to write about his life in a series of poems in which he discusses his feelings about his friends, his foster mom, his little sister Lili, and the death of his parents.

Smith, Jeff. **Bone: 1, Out from Boneville**

Fone Bone, Phoney Bone, and Smiley Bone are run out of their home, Boneville, and become separated in the wilds, but better fortune begins when the three cousins reunite at a farmstead in a deep forested valley, where Fone meets a young girl named Thorn.

Series: DK Publisher: **Eyewitness Books**
Kingfisher Publishing: **Kingfisher Books**

Authors: Russell Freedman, Dan Gutman, Virginia Hamilton, Toni Morrison, Chris Oxlade, Edgar Allan Poe, Jack Prelutsky, Alvin Schwartz, Art Spiegelman

Brown Students' Picks:

Hale, Shannon: **Book of a Thousand Days**

Higgins, F. E.: **Black Book of Secrets**

Paver, Michelle: **Wolf Brother**

Scott, Michael: **Alchemyst: the Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel**

Kinney, Jeff: **Diary of a Wimpy Kid**

Skelton, Michael: **Endymion Spring**

Holland, Robert: **Terror on the Tide,**

Sedgwick, Marcus: **My Swordhand is Singing**

Herge: **TinTin books (any title)**

Park, Linda Sue, et al.: **Click**

Books by Connecticut Authors

Krupinski, Loretta: **Pirate Treasure**

Kudlinski, Kathleen V.: **My Lady, Pocahontas**

Buller, Jon & Schade, Susan: **Travels of Theonius**

St. George, Judith: **Mystery Isle**

Holland, Robert: **AMOK!**

Friesner, Esther: **Temping Fate**

Connor, Leslie: **Waiting for Normal**

Other Connecticut Authors

Tony Abbott

Nora Raleigh Baskin

Suzanne Collins

Caroline Cooney

Bruce Degan

Mary Ann Hoberman

Patricia Reilly Giff

Alan Katz

Madeleine L'Engle

Mike Lupica

Maurice Sendak

Lane Smith

Nancy Tafuri



Connecticut Nutmeg Children's Book Award

The Nutmeg Book Award encourages children in grades 4-6 to read quality literature and to choose their favorite from a list of ten nominated titles. Jointly sponsored by the Connecticut Library Association (CLA) and the Connecticut Association of School Librarians (CASL), the Nutmeg Committee is comprised of children's librarians, school library media specialists, teachers, and student readers.

All books nominated for the award must be:

1. A work of fiction, with appeal for readers in grades 4-6;
2. Written by an author who currently resides in the United States;
3. Copyrighted in the United States, and first published no more than five years from date of selection;
4. Currently in print, and available in paper back as well as hard cover;
5. Well-written, with strong characterization, a vivid setting, striking language, a well-constructed plot, and a plausible conclusion.

(Adapted from <http://www.nutmegaward.org/>)

*****Parents are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the books in order to help your child make an age appropriate selection.**

The 2009 Nominees for Grades 4 - 6:

Blood on the River by Elisa Carbone

As page to Captain John Smith, 11 year-old Samuel Collier witnesses the dealings of the Virginia Company, the Powhatan tribe, and even young Pocahontas during the early days of the colonial settlement at Jamestown, Virginia.

Close Encounters of a Third World Kind by Jennifer J. Stewart

12 year-old Annie's world is turned upside when her father agrees to move the entire family to Nepal on a medical mission. She makes new friends, learns some important lessons, and has adventures that change her life.

Eager by Helen Fox

Would you like to live in the future where robots do all the work? All Gavin and Fleur wanted was a normal robot. Instead they have Eager, who creates more problems than he solves.

Free Baseball by Sue Corbett

Desperate to connect with his absent father, 11 year-old Felix becomes the batboy for a minor league baseball team in the hope of learning more about his famous father's game.

Golden and Grey by Louise Arnold

Tom escapes the school bullies by teaming up with an invisible ghost.

Gossamer by Lois Lowry

This haunting story explores the mystery of dreams. Littlest One, a young Dreamgiver, tries to stop the frightening Sinistees from delivering nightmares.

The Homework Machine by Dan Gutman

Who wouldn't love a machine that does homework for you? Can four unlikely friends keep the biggest secret of their lives?

MVP * Magellan Voyage Project by Douglas Evans

Adam Story is chosen as a player in the MVP challenge. To win the four million dollar prize, Adam must circle the world in forty days - no flying allowed. Competing against other players through time zones and across continents, he faces danger and unknown risks. Get ready for the trip of a lifetime.

Shakespeare's Secret by Elise Broach

When Hero starts sixth grade at a new school, she meets Danny Cardova, the most popular boy. They work together to solve the mystery of the missing million dollar diamond that's hidden somewhere in Hero's house.

Three Good Deeds by Vivian Vande Velde

Howard's troublemaking backfires when he steals the eggs of a goose belonging to a witch. The witch gives him a dose of his own medicine! Maybe life as a prankster isn't all it's quacked up to be.

Connecticut Nutmeg Children's Book Award

Former Winners for Grades 4 - 6:

2008 Riordan, Rick: **The Lightning Thief**

2007 Harlow, Joan Hiatt: **Thunder From the Sea**

🌀 2006 DuPrau, Jeanne: **The City of Ember**

2005 Bruchac, Joseph: **Skeleton Man**

2004 Gutman, Dan: **Babe and Me**

🌀 2003 DiCamillo, Kate: **Because of Winn Dixie**

2002 Haddix, Margaret Peterson: **Among the Hidden**

2001 Wardlee, Lee: **101 Ways to Bug your Parents**

2000 Gutman, Dan: **Million Dollar Shot**

Nutmeg Book Discussion

Grades 4 – 6

Scranton Memorial Library
Mondays, 6:30 – 7:30

- June 23** **Eager**
By Helen Fox
- July 7** **Shakespeare’s Secret**
By Elise Broach
- July 14** **Blood On the River: James Town
1607**
By Elisa Carbone
- July 21** **Three Good Deeds**
By Vivian Van Velde
- July 28** **MVP – Magellan Project**
By Douglas Evans
- August 4** **Homework Machine**
By Dan Gutman
- August 11** **Golden and Grey: An
Unremarkable Boy and a Rather
Remarkable Ghost**
By John Fardell
- August 18** **Close Encounters of a Third-World
Kind**
By Jennifer J. Stewart
- August 25** **Free Baseball**
By Sue Corbett
- September 8** **Gossamer**
By Lois Lowry



Grades 7 and 8

All students are asked to read a minimum of **four** books. **At least one of the titles must come from the list of required reading below.** Please see the general instructions page for a discussion of assessments on the Summer Reading.

If the suggested title is not available, try another by the same author. At the end of the Grades 7-8 list, look for the most popular books under “Student Picks!” Also, at the end of the 7-8 list, you will find selected titles by Connecticut authors.

Assessments for Grades 7 and 8

Each student is expected to complete summer reading before school begins. When you begin your English class, you should be prepared for some type of assessment on the book that you read from the list of **required reading for grades 7 and 8** that follows. This assessment may include a written and/or oral assignment. For this reason, you are encouraged either to take notes while reading this book or to discuss its content with another in order to develop your thoughts.

Students are asked to return their recording sheets to their English teacher or to the library media specialist at the beginning of the year.

☺ MRS. NOSAL’S PICKS!

These books are some of my favorites. Try some!

🔗 AUDIO FORMAT AVAILABLE

These books are available at Scranton Library as a sound cassette, CD, playaways™, or downloadable audiobook. To access the audiobook collection, you must make one trip to Scranton to create a free account. After that, everything can be done remotely at <http://www.scrantonlibrary.org/>.



IMPORTANT!

Required Reading for Grades 7 and 8

You must read at least one title from the grade appropriate list below as one of your four books. **If you have reading difficulties, you should discuss the possibility of selecting an alternate title with your Special Education Program Manager, English teacher, or Reading teacher.**

Incoming 7th Graders: **You are required to read at least one of the six books listed below as one of your four books:**

Evangelista, Beth: **Gifted**

Arrogant, mentally gifted George Clark has dreaded the eighth-grade class camping trip and its inevitable bullying, but a hurricane and a friend's loyalty make him realize what is important in life.

☺ Park, Linda Sue: **When My Name was Keoko**

With national pride and occasional fear, a brother and sister face the increasingly oppressive occupation of Korea by Japan during World War II, which threatens to suppress Korean culture entirely.

🐾 Paulson, Gary: **Woodsong**

For a rugged outdoor man and his family, life in northern Minnesota is a wild experience involving wolves, deer, and the sled dogs that make their way of life possible. Includes an account of the author's first Iditarod, a dogsled race across Alaska.

☺ Shusterman, Neal: **Full Tilt**

When sixteen-year-old Blake goes to a mysterious, by-invitation-only carnival he somehow knows that it could save his comatose brother, but soon learns that much more is at stake if he fails to meet the challenge presented there by the beautiful Cassandra.

Staples, Suzanne Fisher: **Under the Persimmon Tree**

A young Afghan girl, Najmah, befriends an American woman, Nusrat in Peshawar, Pakistan, after Najmah flees her native Afghanistan during the 2001 war; and together they begin a long journey to locate their missing loved ones after the war ends.

☺ Yen Mah, Adeline: **Chinese Cinderella: the true story of an unwanted daughter**

The author tells the story of her painful childhood in China where she lived until the age of 14 with her father, step-mother, and siblings, all of whom considered her bad luck because her mother died shortly after giving birth to her.

Incoming 8th Graders:

You are required to read at least one of the eight books listed below as one of your four books:

🐾 Adams, Richard: **Watership Down**

Chronicles the adventures of a group of rabbits searching for a safe place to establish a new warren where they can live in peace.

Clement, David: **Fire Bringer**

Rannoch, born with a fawn mark the shape of an oak leaf on his forehead, is destined to lead the deer out of the Lord of the Herd's tyranny, but he must first complete a journey through the Great Land.

🐾 ☺ Albom, Mitch: **The Five People You Meet in Heaven**

A bitter eighty-three-year-old war veteran who believes his life is meaningless dies while trying to save a little girl's life and finds himself in heaven, where five people from his past--some loved ones, some strangers--explain what his years on Earth really meant, and whether or not he succeeded in saving the child.

Evans, Paul Richard: **The Locket**

Michael, an employee at the Arcadia nursing home, befriends Esther, a reclusive elderly woman mourning for her youth and lost love. Michael also loses his love, Faye, and faces other challenges. Esther, and her gift of a locket, teaches Michael many important lessons. From the author of *The Christmas Box*.

🐾 Farmer, Nancy: **The House of the Scorpion**

In a future where humans despise clones, Matt enjoys special status as the young clone of El Patron, the 142-year-old leader of a corrupt drug empire nestled between Mexico and the United States.

🐾 ☺ Kidd, Sue Monk: **The Secret Life of Bees**

Fourteen-year-old Lily and her companion, Rosaleen, an African-American woman who has cared for Lily since her mother's death ten years earlier, flee their home after Rosaleen is victimized by racist police officers, and find a safe haven in Tiburon, South Carolina at the home of three beekeeping sisters, May, June, and August.

🐾 ☺ Mikaelson, Ben: **Touching Spirit Bear**

After his anger erupts into violence, fifteen year-old Cole, in order to avoid going to prison, agrees to participate in a sentencing alternative based on the Native American Circle Justice, and he is sent to a remote Alaskan Island where an encounter with a huge Spirit Bear changes his life.

🐾 Smith, Betty: **A Tree Grows in Brooklyn**

Young Francie Nolan experiences the problems of growing up in a Brooklyn, New York slum.

You must read a minimum of 3 books in addition to the required book. You may select from the list below or read a title of your own choosing.

SUGGESTED TITLES

FICTION: Realistic / Contemporary – Stories about teens like you!

☺ ☺ Brashares, Ann: **Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants**
During their first summer apart, four teenage girls, best friends since earliest childhood, stay in touch through a shared pair of secondhand jeans that magically adapts to each of their figures and affects their attitudes to their different summer experiences. The first in the series of exciting adventures of the “sisters”.

☺ Couloumbis, Audrey: **Say Yes**
In her efforts to hang on following the disappearance of her stepmother, Casey resorts to anything, including robbery.

☺ Creech, Sharon: **Heartbeat**
Twelve-year-old Annie ponders the rhythms of life the year that her mother becomes pregnant, her grandfather begins faltering, and her best friend becomes distant.

☺ Cummings, Priscilla: **Red Kayak**
Living on Maryland's Eastern Shore, thirteen-year-old Brady and his friends J.T. and Digger find their friendship tested, as well as their ideas about right and wrong.

☺ Curtis, Christopher Paul: **Bucking the Sarge**
Deeply involved in his cold and manipulative mother's shady business dealings in Flint, Michigan, fourteen-year-old Luther keeps a sense of humor while running the Happy Neighbor Group Home For Men, all the while dreaming of going to college and becoming a philosopher.

☺ DeFelice, Cynthia D: **Under the Same Sky**
While trying to earn money for a motor bike, fourteen-year-old Joe Pederson becomes involved with the Mexicans who work on his family's farm and develops a better relationship with his father.

☺ Gauthier, Gail: **Happy Kid!**
After his mother bribes him into reading a self-help book on how to form satisfying relationships and enjoy a happy life, cynical eighth-grader Kyle finds there may be more to the book than he realized.

☺ Holm, Jennifer L.: **Middle School is Worse than Meatloaf: a year told through stuff**
Ginny makes a to do list for her seventh grade year, which includes landing a role in the school play, trying to make friends, ignoring her horoscope, and going to see her grandpa Joe in Florida; but she always seems to come up short in accomplishing any of it.

Johnson, Maureen: **13 Little Blue Envelopes**
When seventeen-year-old Ginny receives a packet of mysterious envelopes from her favorite aunt, she leaves New Jersey to criss-cross Europe on a sort of scavenger hunt that transforms her life.

☺ Korman, Gordon: **Born to Rock**
High school senior, Leo Caraway, a conservative Republican, learns that his biological father is a punk rock legend.

☺ Koss, Amy Goldman: **Side Effects**
Everything changes for Isabelle, not quite fifteen, when she is diagnosed with lymphoma--but eventually she survives and even thrives.

☺ ☺ Lupica, Mike: **Summer Ball**
Sequel to: **Travel Team**. Thirteen-year-old Danny must prove himself all over again for a disapproving coach and against new rivals at a summer basketball camp.

☺ Murdock, Catherine: **The Off Season**
Sequel to **Dairy Queen**. High school junior D. J. Schwenk staggers under the weight of caring for her badly injured brother, her responsibilities on the dairy farm, a changing relationship with her friend Brian, and her own athletic aspirations.

☺ Perkins, Lynne Rae: **Criss Cross**
Teenagers in a small town in the 1960s experience new thoughts and feelings, question their identities, connect, and disconnect as they search for the meaning of life and love.

Pixley, Marcella Fleischman: **Freak**
Twelve-year-old Miriam, poetic, smart, and quirky, is considered a freak by the popular girls at her middle school, and she eventually explodes in response to their bullying, revealing an inner strength she did not know she had.

Sonnenblick, Jordan. **Zen and the Art of Faking It**
When thirteen-year-old San Lee moves to a new town and school for the umpteenth time, he is looking for a way to stand out when his knowledge of Zen Buddhism, gained in his previous school, provides the answer--and the need to quickly become a convincing Zen master.

☺ Van Draanen, Wendelin: **Flipped**
In alternating chapters, two teenagers describe how their feelings about themselves, each other, and their families have changed over the years.

☺ Westerfeld, Scott: **So Yesterday**
Hunter Braque is paid by corporations to spot what is "cool". He and his girlfriend Jen try find a missing person and thwart a conspiracy directed at the heart of consumer culture.

☺ Woods, Brenda: **Emako Blue**

Monterey, Savannah, Jamal, and Eddie have never had much to do with each other until Emako Blue shows up at chorus practice, but just as the lives of the five Los Angeles high school students become intertwined, tragedy tears them apart.

Authors: Sharon Creech, Ellen Wittlinger, Joan Bauer, Cathy Hopkins, Terry Trueman, Angela Johnson, Chris Crutcher, Kevin Brooks

FICTION: Fantasy / Science Fiction

🐉 Barry, Dave: **Peter and the Starcatchers**

Peter, an orphan boy, and his friend Molly fight off thieves and pirates in order to keep the secret safe away from Black Stache and his evil associate Mister Grin.

☺ Bell, Hilari: **The Goblin Wood**

A young Hedgewitch, an idealistic knight, and an army of clever goblins fight against the ruling hierarchy that is trying to rid the land of all magical creatures.

🐉 Clements, Andrew: **Things Hoped For**

Sequel to **Things Not Seen**. Seventeen-year-old Gwen, who has been living with her grandfather in Manhattan while she attends music school, joins up with another music student to solve the mystery when her grandfather suddenly goes missing.

Constable, Kate: **The Tenth Power**

Book 3 in the Chanters of Tremaris Trilogy. Having lost her magical powers of enchantment, eighteen-year-old Calwyn searches for the missing half of the broken Wheel of the Tenth Power with the hope of stopping the plague and endless winter that have fallen on her world.

🐉 Cornish, D.M.: **Foundling**

Rossamund Bookchild's sheltered life takes a surprising turn when he is recruited to help the Emperor, sending Rossamund on a journey across the Half-Continent that teaches him not everyone can be trusted.

Delaney, Joseph: **Night of the Soul Stealer**

The Last Apprentice series. Sequel to **Revenge of the Witch and Curse of the Bane**. Tom is dismayed when his master the Spook decrees that they will be spending the winter on gloomy and forbidding Anglezarke Moor but soon discovers the reason for his master's decision, as they tangle with two dangerous witches and struggle to keep a dark mage from resurrecting an ancient evil. Includes excerpts from Tom Ward's journal.

🐉 ☺ Farmer, Nancy: **Sea of Trolls**

After Jack becomes apprenticed to a Druid bard, he and his little sister Lucy are captured by Viking Berserkers and taken to the home of King Ivar the Boneless and his half-troll queen, leading Jack to undertake a vital quest to Jotunheim, home of the trolls.

Landon, Dena: **Shapeshifter's Quest**

To atone for the misdeed of an ancestor, teen-aged Syanthe, a shape-shifter, journeys outside the safety of the forest where she has always lived to learn the secret of the evil king's magic.

🐉 Marr, Melissa: **Wicked Lovely**

Seventeen-year-old Aislinn, who has the rare ability to see fairies, is drawn against her will into a centuries-old battle by Keenan, the terrifying but alluring Summer King, who determines that she must become his queen and save summer from perishing.

McNaughton, Janet: **The Secret Under My Skin**

In the year 2368, humans exist under dire environmental conditions and one young woman, rescued from a workcamp and chosen for a special duty, uses her love of learning to discover the truth about the planet's future and her own dark past.

☺ Oppel, Kenneth: **Darkwing**

Dusk, the world's first bat, must lead his colony to safety in a time of changing species.

🐉 Patterson, James: **The Final Warning: Maximum Ride #4** Final book in the Maximum Ride series. **Maximum Ride: School's Out- Forever, Saving the World and Other Extreme Sports** and **Maximum Ride: The Angel Experiment**.

(Audio format available for earlier volumes.) While on a mission to Antarctica to save the world from global warming, fourteen-year-old Maximum Ride and the other members of the Flock--a band of genetically modified children who can fly--are pursued by their creator, the Uber-Director, who wants to auction them off to the highest bidder.

🐉 Pierce, Tamora: **Terrier**

Book 1 of the Beka Cooper series. When sixteen-year-old Beka becomes "Puppy" to a pair of "Dogs," as the Provost's Guards are called, she uses her police training, natural abilities, and a touch of magic to help them solve the case of a murdered baby in Tortall's Lower City.

☺ Reeve, Phillip: **Darkling Plain**

Sequel to **Infernal Devices** and **Mortal Engines**. The Hungry City Chronicles series. While dealing with people from their past and treachery from unexpected sources, Tom, Hester, and Wren return to save the world.

🐉 Rowling, J.K.: **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows**

Sequel to **Harry Potter and the Half-blood Prince**. Follows the journey of the series' protagonist Harry Potter as he attempts to bring an end to his archenemy, Lord Voldemort

Shusterman, Neal: **Unwind**

Three teens embark upon a cross-country journey in order to escape from a society that salvages body parts from children ages thirteen to eighteen.

🐉 Stroud, Jonathan: **Ptolemy's Gate**

Final volume of the **Bartimeus Trilogy**. Bartimeus, Nathaniel, and Kitty face treacherous magicians and an enemy from "The Other Place" that threatens London and the world.

Turner, Megan Whalen: **King of Attolia**

Eugenides, still known as a Thief of Eddis, faces palace intrigue and assassins as he strives to prove himself both to the people of Attolia and to his new bride, their queen. Sequel to **The Thief** and **The Queen of Attolia**.

☺ Valentine, James: **Jumpman Rule #2: Don't Even Think About It!**

Sequel to **Jumpman Rule #1: Don't Touch Anything**. Teenagers Genevieve Corrigan and Jules Santorini "TimeJump" to the year 15,000,000,072 to correct problems being caused by the not-so-trustworthy head of TimeMaster Corporation, Quincy Carter One.

Authors: G.P. Taylor, Terry Pratchett, Eoin Colfer, Donna Jo Napoli, Tamora Pierce, Orson Scott Card, Erin Hunter

FICTION: Mystery / Suspense

☺ Abrahams, Peter: **Down the Rabbit Hole**

Like her idol Sherlock Holmes, eighth-grader Ingrid Levin-Hill uses her intellect to solve the murder of an eccentric local woman in her hometown of Echo Falls.

🔍 Allison, Jennifer: **Gilda Joyce, Psychic Investigator**

During the summer before ninth grade, intrepid Gilda Joyce invites herself to the San Francisco mansion of distant cousin Lester Splinter and his thirteen-year-old daughter, where she uses her purported psychic abilities and detective skills to solve the mystery of the mansion's boarded-up tower.

🔍 Anderson, M.T.: **The Game of Sunken Places**

When two boys stay with an eccentric relative they discover a board game that draws them into a mysterious adventure.

Hautman, Pete and Mary Logue: **Snatched**

Too curious for her own good, Roni, crime reporter for her high school newspaper, teams up with Brian, freshman science geek, to investigate the beating and kidnapping of a classmate.

🔍 Higson, Charlie: **Blood Fever: a James Bond adventure**
Sequel to **Silverfin**. During a summer holiday in Italy, the teenage James Bond tangles with an underground empire of criminals as he attempts the rescue of a kidnapped young girl.

🔍 ☺ Horowitz, Anthony: **Alex Rider Adventures Series**
Follow Alex on his globe-trotting adventures of mystery and intrigue. **Stormbreaker, Point Blank, Skeleton Key, Eagle Strike, Scorpia, Ark Angel, and Snakehead**.

Littke, Lael: **Lake of Secrets**

Having arrived in her mother's home town to try to find her long-missing brother, fifteen-year-old Carlene finds herself haunted by memories from a past life.

McCaughrean, Geraldine: **White Darkness**

Taken to Antarctica by the man she thinks of as her uncle for what she believes to be a vacation, Symone--a troubled fourteen year old--discovers that he is dangerously obsessed with seeking Symme's Hole, an opening that supposedly leads into the center of a hollow Earth.

Miklowitz, Gloria: **The Enemy Has a Face**

Netta and her family have moved from Israel to Los Angeles, and when her seventeen-year-old brother disappears, she is convinced that he has been abducted by Palestinian terrorists.

Moriarty, Jaclyn: **The Murder of Bindy Mackenzie**

Class brain Bindy Mackenzie has alienated her entire high school but when she realizes someone is trying to kill her, she has to make friends in order to get help.

Spradlin, Michael: **Live and Let Shop**

Book one of the **Spy Goddess Series**. Beverly Hills teenager Rachel Buchanan gets in trouble with the law and winds up at mysterious Blackthorn Academy in Pennsylvania, where she uncovers secrets about the school and becomes entangled in a case of international espionage.

Thompson, Kate: **The New Policeman**

Fifteen-year-old musician J.J. Liddy leaves his small, Irish town and travels to the land of the fairies to search for time so he can give it to his busy mother, but when he gets there, he discovers that the inhabitants are in trouble and learns about his family's secret history.

Authors: Joan Lowery Nixon, Caroline Cooney, Nancy Werlin, Vivian Vande Velde, Robert Cormier, Lois Duncan, Michael Cadnum, Mary Higgins Clark

FICTION: Historical

🔍 Anderson, M.T: **The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing, Traitor to the Nation: the pox party**

Various diaries, letters, and other manuscripts chronicle the experiences of Octavian, a young African American, from birth to age sixteen, as he is brought up as part of a science experiment in the years leading up to and during the Revolutionary War.

🔍 ☺ Blackwood, Gary: **Second Sight**

In Washington, D.C., during the last days of the Civil War, a teenage boy who performs in a mind reading act befriends a clairvoyant girl whose frightening visions foreshadow an assassination plot.

🔍 Bruchac, Joseph: **Code Talker: a novel about the Navajo marines of World War II**

After being taught in a boarding school run by whites that Navajo is a useless language, Ned Begay and other Navajo men are recruited by the Marines to become Code Talkers, sending messages during World War II in their native tongue.

☺ Cooney, Caroline B.: **Goddess of Yesterday**

Taken from her home on an Aegean island as a six-year-old girl, Anaxandra calls on the protection of her goddess while she poses as two different princesses over the next six years, before ending up as a servant in the company of Helen and Paris as they make their way to Troy.

Glaser, Linda: **Bridge to America**

Eight-year-old Fivel narrates the story of his family's Atlantic Ocean crossing to reunite with their father in the United States, from its desperate beginning in a shtetl in Poland in 1920 to his stirrings of identity as an American boy.

🌀 Gratz, Alan: **Samurai Shortstop**

While obtaining a Western education at a prestigious Japanese boarding school in 1890, sixteen-year-old Toyo also receives traditional samurai training which has profound effects on both his baseball game and his relationship with his father.

Hoobler, Dorothy and Thomas: **In Darkness, Death**

Sequel to: **The Demon in the Teahouse**. In eighteenth-century Japan, young Seikei becomes involved with a ninja as he helps Judge Ooka, his foster father, investigate the murder of a samurai.

☺ Hughes, Dean: **Soldier Boys**

Two boys, one German and one American, are eager to join their respective armies during World War II, and their paths cross at the Battle of the Bulge.

🌀 Kadohata, Cynthia: **Weedflower**

After twelve-year-old Sumiko and her Japanese-American family are relocated from their flower farm in southern California to an internment camp on a Mojave Indian reservation in Arizona, she helps her family and neighbors, becomes friends with a local Indian boy, and tries to hold on to her dream of owning a flower shop.

🌀 Lisle, Janet Taylor: **Black Duck**

Years afterwards, Ruben Hart tells the story of how, in 1929 Newport, Rhode Island, his family and his best friend's family were caught up in the violent competition among groups trying to control the local rum-smuggling trade.

McKernan, Victoria: **Shackleton's Stowaway**

A fictionalized account of the adventures of eighteen-year-old Perce Blackborow, who stowed away for the 1914 Shackleton Antarctic expedition and, after their ship *Endurance* was crushed by ice, endured many hardships, including the loss of his toes to frostbite, during the nearly two-year return journey across sea and ice.

Miller, Sarah: **Miss Spitfire: reaching Helen Keller**

At age twenty-one, partially-blind, lonely but spirited Annie Sullivan travels from Massachusetts to Alabama to try and teach six-year-old Helen Keller, deaf and blind since age two, self-discipline and communication skills.

Patneau, Dave: **Thin Wood Walls**

When the Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor, Joe Hamada sent to a relocation camp in California, even as his older brother joins the United States Army to fight in the war.

🌀 Peck, Richard: **The River Between Us**

During the early days of the Civil War, the Pruitt family takes in two mysterious young ladies who have fled New Orleans to come north to Illinois.

Rabin, Staton: **Betsy and the Emperor**

In 1815 on the remote island of Saint Helena, fourteen-year-old Betsy Balcombe develops a friendly relationship with Napoleon Bonaparte who, after his defeat at Waterloo, is brought there as an exile and is housed with her family.

Rinaldi, Ann: **Or Give Me Death: a novel of Patrick Henry's family**

With their father away advocating independence for the American colonies, the children of Patrick Henry try to manage the family plantation, and care for their mentally ill mother.

☺ Selznick, Brian: **The Invention of Hugo Cabret**

When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toyseller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized.

Schmidt, Gary D.: **The Wednesday Wars**

During the 1967 school year, on Wednesday afternoons when all his classmates go to either Catechism or Hebrew school, seventh-grader Holling Hoodhood stays in Mrs. Baker's classroom where they read the plays of William Shakespeare and Holling learns much of value about the world he lives in.

🌀 ☺ Spinelli, Jerry: **Milkweed**

A street child, known to himself only as Stopthief, finds community when he is taken in by a band of orphans in a Warsaw ghetto which helps him weather the horrors of the Nazi regime.

Sturtevant, Katherine: **A True and Faithful Narrative**

In London in the 1680s, sixteen-year-old Meg tries to decide whether to marry either of the two men who court her, taking into account both love and her writing ambitions.

Wells, Rosemary: **Red Moon at Sharpsburg**

Even though the odds are against her and the Civil War has ruined her home and given her a view of the darker side of humanity, thirteen-year-old India Moody continues to aspire to become a scientist and attend Oberlin College.

Whitesel, Cheryl Aylward: **Blue Fingers: a Ninja's tale**

Having failed in his apprenticeship as a dye maker, Koji is forced to train as a ninja, where he discovers samurai have burned his former village.

Authors: Ann Rinaldi, Will Hobbs, Karen Cushman, James Lincoln Collier, Gary Paulsen, Kathryn Lasky, Theodore Taylor, Carol Matas

NON-FICTION: Biography, Autobiography, Memoir

Cervantes, Peggy: **Deep Woods: the story of Robert Frost**
Explores the life and career of American poet Robert Frost, discussing his impoverished childhood, his struggles to provide for his family, the mental illness and tragedy that plagued family members, and his success as a poet.

☺ Coppola, Meredith (compiled by): **Made a Difference For That One: a surgeon's letters home from Iraq**

This is a compilation of letters written by Madison native, Dr. Chris Coppola, a military surgeon, during his time in the Iraqi war zone.

📖 Crutcher, Chris: **King of the Mild Frontier: an ill-advised autobiography**

Chris Crutcher, author of young adult novels such as *Ironman* and *Whale Talk*, as well as short stories, tells of growing up in Cascade, Idaho, and becoming a writer.

Fleischman, Sid: **Escape! The Story of the Great Houdini**
A biography of the magician, ghost chaser, aviator, and king of escape artists whose amazing feats are remembered long after his death in 1926.

☺ Hickam, Homer H: **October Sky: a memoir**

Homer Hickam, the introspective son of a mine superintendent and a mother determined to get him out of Coalwood, West Virginia forever, nurtures a dream to send rockets into outer space--an ambition that changes his life and the lives of everyone living in Coalwood in 1957.

Krull, Kathleen: **Leonardo da Vinci**

A biography of Leonardo da Vinci focusing on his scientific rather than his artistic work.

Rappoport, Ken: **Profiles in Sports Courage**

Contains biographies of twelve famous athletes from a variety of sports including gymnast Kerri Strug and cycling champion Lance Armstrong.

Zenatti, Valerie: **When I Was a Soldier**

Presents the memoirs of Valerie Zenatti, who at eighteen, enlisted in the Israeli army, endured harsh conditions and surroundings, and participated in top secret missions for the Israeli Secret Service, and describes her French-Jewish heritage and personal struggles.

GENERAL:

☺ Ball, Johnny: **Go Figure! A Totally Cool Book About Numbers**

Presents a collection of math activities that include brainteasers, magic tricks, and mind-reading games.

Carle, Megan: **Teens Cook: how to make what you want to eat**

Presents seventy-five quick and easy recipes for teens, and includes information on ingredients, and general cooking tips and short-cuts.

Dendy, Leslie: **Guinea Pig Scientists: bold self-experiments in science and medicine**

Recounts the true stories of ten scientists and medical researchers that have endured extreme hardship and discomfort in order to test new discoveries and inventions in the fields of medicine and science.

Ettlinger, Steve: **Twinkie, Deconstructed: my journey to discover how the ingredients found in processed foods are grown, mined (yes, mined), and manipulated into what america eats**

Traces the sources of processed foods ingredients and the ways in which chemicals and other non-food raw materials are turned into consumable foods.

Janeczko, Paul B.: **Top Secret: a handbook of codes, ciphers, and secret writing**

Presents a guide to codemaking, codebreaking, and their role in history, describing different types of codes and ciphers, discussing codebreaking and concealment techniques, and including brief stories about exciting moments in the history of the art.

Karres, Erika V. Shearin: **Mean Chicks, Cliques, and Dirty Tricks: a real girl's guide to getting through the day with smarts and style.**

Provides teenage girls with tips and advice to help them get through the school day and deal with bullies, cliques, and mean girls.

☺ McKellar, Danica: **Math Doesn't Suck: how to survive middle school math without losing your mind or breaking a nail**

Actress and math theorem coauthor Danica McKellar teaches math concepts introduced in middle school, the period when many young girls lose interest in math, using entertaining examples.

☺ Patent, Dorothy Hinshaw: **The Buffalo and the Indians: a shared destiny**

Traces the history of the dependence of the American Indians on the buffalo from prehistoric times to the present.

Roberts, David, Leslie, Jeremy: **Pick Me Up: stuff you need to know**

A reference book for modern kids and teens that presents fun information about history, science, nature, geography, and culture.

Schlosser, Eric: **Chew On This: everything you don't want to know about fast food.**

A look at fast food, what's in it, how it's made, and what it does to our bodies.

☺ Seckel, Al: **Optical Illusions: the science of visual perception**

Contains over 275 optical illusions, each with an explanation, and includes information on the science of visual perception.

Walker, Sally: **Secrets of a Civil War Submarine**

Tells the story of the "H. L. Hunley," the Confederate submarine that in 1864 became the first to ever sink an enemy ship but lay missing on the ocean floor for more than a century, describing its creation, its discovery, skeletons and objects found onboard, and facial reconstructions of several crew members by forensic anthropologists.

☺ Wolf, Allan: **Immersed in Verse: an informative, slightly irreverent & totally tremendous guide to living the poet's life**

Contains a guide to writing poetry, providing advice, ideas, writing activities, and encouragement from a working poet, presenting poems by a variety of poets from the unknown to the famous, including Langston Hughes, e.e. cummings, Eve Merriam, and more.

🐾 Woodson, Jacqueline: **Locomotion**

Inspired by his teacher, eleven-year-old Lonnie begins to write about his life in a series of poems in which he discusses his feelings about his friends, his foster mom, his little sister Lili, and the death of his parents.

Polson's Student Picks:

Brown, Dan: **The DaVinci Code**

Delaney, Joseph: **Last Apprentice series**

Harrison, Lisi: **The Clique series**

Meyer, Stephenie: **Twilight series**

Books by Connecticut Authors

Bulion, Leslie: **Uncharted Waters**

Connor, Leslie: **Waiting for Normal**

Friend, Natasha: **Bounce**

Friesner, Esther M.: **Nobody's Princess**

Lupica, Mike: **Summer Ball**

Other Connecticut Authors

Clements, Bruce

Collier, Christopher

Cooney, Caroline B.

Gauthier, Gail

Holland, Robert

Kudlinksi, Kathleen V

L'Engle, Madeleine

MacClintock, Dorcas

Osborne, Mary Pope

**Connecticut Nutmeg
Book Award**

The Nutmeg Book Award encourages children in grades 7 and 8 to read quality literature and to choose their favorite from a list of ten nominated titles. Jointly sponsored by the Connecticut Library Association (CLA) and the Connecticut Association of School Librarians (CASL), the Nutmeg Committee is comprised of children's librarians, school library media specialists, teachers, and student readers.

All books nominated for the award must be:

1. A work of fiction, with appeal for readers in grades 7-8;
2. Written by an author who currently resides in the United States;
3. Copyrighted in the United States, and first published no more than five years from date of selection;
4. Currently in print, and available in paper back as well as hard cover;
5. Well-written, with strong characterization, a vivid setting, striking language, a well-constructed plot, and a plausible conclusion.

(Adapted from <http://www.nutmegaward.org/>)

*****Parents are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the books in order to help your child make an age appropriate selection.**

The 2008 Nominees for Grades 7 - 8:

Budhos, Marina Tamar: **Ask Me No Questions**

Fourteen-year-old Nadira, her sister, and their parents leave Bangladesh for New York City, but the expiration of their visas and the events of September 11, 2001, bring frustration, sorrow, and terror for the whole family.

☺ Choldenko, Gennifer: **Al Capone Does My Shirts**

A twelve-year-old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935 when guards' families were housed there, and has to contend with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister.

Lester, Julius: **Day of Tears**

Presents an historical fiction written in first-person format that follows Emma, the slave of Pierce Butler, through a series of events in her life as her master hosts the largest slave auction in American history in Savannah, Georgia in 1859 in order to pay off his mounting gambling debts.

🐾 Lupica, Mike: **Heat**

Pitching prodigy Michael Arroyo is on the run from social services after being banned from playing Little League baseball because rival coaches doubt he is only twelve years old and he has no parents to offer them proof.

☞ ☺ Murdock, Catherine: **Dairy Queen**

After spending her summer running the family farm and training the quarterback for her school's rival football team, sixteen-year-old D.J. decides to go out for the sport herself, not anticipating the reactions of those around her.

☞ Paver, Michelle: **Wolf Brother**

Twelve-year-old Tarak and his guide, a wolf cub, set out on a dangerous journey to fulfill an oath the boy made to his dying father--to travel to the Mountain of the World Spirit seeking a way to destroy a demon-possessed bear that threatens all the clans.

Shusterman, Neal: **The Schwa Was Here**

A Brooklyn eighth-grader nicknamed Antsy befriends the Schwa, an "invisible-ish" boy who is tired of blending into his surroundings and going unnoticed by nearly everyone.

☞ Springer, Nancy: **The Case of the Missing Marquess**

Enola Holmes, much younger sister of detective Sherlock Holmes, must travel to London in disguise to unravel the disappearance of her missing mother.

☞ Westerfeld, Scott: **Uglies**

The beginning of **The Uglies series**. Tally is faced with a difficult choice when her new friend Shay decides to risk life on the outside rather than submit to the forced operation that turns sixteen year old girls into gorgeous beauties, and realizes that there is a whole new side to the pretty world that she doesn't like.

☞ ☺ Zevin, Gabrielle: **Elsewhere**

After fifteen-year-old Liz Hall is hit by a taxi and killed, she finds herself in a place that is both like and unlike Earth, where she must adjust to her new status and figure out how to "live."

Connecticut Nutmeg Book Award

Former Winners for Grades 7 - 8:

2008 ☞ Riordan, Rick. **The Lightning Thief**

Percy, expelled from six schools for being unable to control his temper, learns the truth from his mother that his father is the Greek god Poseidon, and is sent to Camp Half Blood where he is befriended by a satyr and the demigod daughter of Athena who join him in a journey to the Underworld to retrieve Zeus's lightning bolt and prevent a catastrophic war. Fantasy.

2007 ☺ Rees, Douglas: **Vampire High**

When his family moves from California to New Sodom, Massachusetts and Cody enters Vlad Dracul Magnet School, many things seem strange, from the dark-haired, pale-skinned, supernaturally strong students to Charon, the wolf who guides him around campus on the first day. Fantasy.

2006 ☞ Hiassen, Carl: **Hoot**

Roy, who is new to his small Florida community, becomes involved in another boy's attempt to save a colony of burrowing owls from a proposed construction site. Realistic fiction.

Nutmeg Book Discussion

Grades 7 – 8

Scranton Memorial Library

Tuesdays, 7:00 – 8:00

July 1 –

Ask Me No Questions by Marina Budhos

July 8 –

Wolf Brother by Michelle Paver

July 15 –

Elsewhere by Gabrielle Zevin

July 22 –

The Schwa Was Here by Neal Shusterman

July 29 –

Case of the Missing Marquess by Nancy Springer

August 5 –

Al Capone Does My Shirts by Gennifer

Choldenko

August 12 –

Dairy Queen by Catherine Gilbert Murdock

August 21 –

Day of Tears by Julius Lester

August 26 –

Uglies by Scott Westerfeld

September 2 –

Heat by Mike Lupica



Madison Public Schools' Summer Reading List
Grades 5 – 8 RECORDING SHEET

Please return this form to your Language Arts / English teacher no later than the first week of September 2008.

Student Name: _____

Please circle: **Boy** or **Girl** / Grade in September: **5** **6** **7** **8**

AUTHOR	TITLE	
#1		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
#2		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
#3		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
#4		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
#5		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
#6		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography

#7		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
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#9		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
#10		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
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#12		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
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#15		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
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#17		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
#18		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
#19		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
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#24		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
#25		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
#26		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography

2008 Summer Reading List Grades 9-12

General Instructions

On the following pages is the suggested Summer Reading List for students entering Grades 9-12 in the fall of 2008. Students must read at least four books this summer. At least one of the four books must come from this list in order to comply with the assessments in English class (see below). While the summer reading list should serve as a guide, reading need not be limited to these books except for one title that must come from this list. We have also included suggested authors in each list. If the suggested title is not available, try another by the same author. A magazine that you read regularly throughout the summer or any graphic novel you read will be considered one of the free choice works. Graphic novels can be found in the Teen Department of Scranton Library. You will find a list of suggested periodicals below.

Students in Selected AP Courses

Students taking AP U. S. History, AP Psychology, AP European History / Western Civilization, and AP English have special summer reading requirements. You will find a separate list of readings for those courses at the end of the section for Grades 11 and 12.

English Assessments

Each student is expected to complete summer reading before school begins. When you begin your English class, your teacher will provide instructions and guidance for the summer reading assessment activities during the first few days of class. You are encouraged to prepare yourself for this assessment by keeping notes. The following guidelines may be useful in taking notes on the summer reading or you may wish to utilize a journal (see below).

1. There are several problems or conflicts that develop in this book. Choose one conflict that stands out and explain why you think it is important.
2. Choose one short but significant passage from the book and write it out. Explain why you think it is significant; discuss what it says about the characters in the story as well as about people in general.
3. Relate the story or novel to other characters in literature, to events or people in real life, or to situations (real or imaginary), such as those in films or on television.

A Journal

What is a journal?

Journals are tools used by many readers to assist them in taking notes about their reading. Think of your journal as a personal record of your interaction with the selections.

What, When, and How to write?

Use your journal to record personal reactions, your thoughts, feelings, and experiences. Critical reading of literature should help you to contemplate human motivation. You should understand how attitudes, feelings, and beliefs govern the characters' actions and behavior. Try to write in your journal right after you do some reading. Think on paper without worrying about the mechanics of writing. Use language that expresses your personal voice – language that is natural to you.

Suggested Periodicals

Art News	Macworld
Business Week	Runner's World
Car and Driver	Wired
Discover	The New York Times

Web Sites

...for finding lists of recommended books

Novelist
www.scrantonlibrary.org (Go to Research)

Best Books for Young Adults
www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists/bbva

Outstanding Books for the College Bound
www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists/obcb

Scranton Library Teen Section
www.scrantonlibrary.org/teens

Summer Programs at Scranton Memorial Library

Teen Summer Reading Incentive: Win a Video Ipod at Scranton Library this summer! Register to earn raffle tickets for every 100 pages read throughout the summer. A raffle drawing will be held for prizes such as DVDs, gift certificates, and the grand prize – a video Ipod! (**Grades 7-12**)

Check the Scranton Library website, www.scrantonlibrary.org/teens, for the schedule of movies, book discussions, and programs specifically for students in grades 7-12!

Grades 9 and 10

All students are asked to read **four** books. **At least one of the four titles must come from this list.** Please see the first page of the high school list for a discussion of assessments on the Summer Reading. At the end of the 9-12 list, look for the most popular authors/titles last year and Connecticut authors/titles.

Students are asked to return their recording sheets to their English teachers during the first week of school. If they don't have English class during the first trimester, then they must give them to the Library Media Specialist.

AUDIO FORMAT AVAILABLE

These books are available at Scranton Library as a sound cassette, CD, playaways™ or downloadable audiobook. To access the audiobook collection, you must make one trip to Scranton to create a free account. After that, everything can be done remotely at <http://www.scrantonlibrary.org/>.

FICTION: Realistic

Acampora, Paul: **Defining Dulcie**

When sixteen-year-old Dulcie's father dies, her mother makes a decision to move them to California, where Dulcie makes an equally radical decision to steal her dad's old truck and head back home.

Alexie, Sherman: **The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian**

Budding cartoonist Junior leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white farm town school where the only other Native American is the school mascot.

Anderson, Laurie Halse: **Twisted**

After finally getting noticed by someone other than school bullies and his ever-angry father, seventeen-year-old Tyler enjoys his tough new reputation and the attentions of a popular girl, but when life starts to go bad again, he must choose between transforming himself or giving in to his destructive thoughts. By the author of **Speak** and **Prom**.

Dessen, Sarah: **Just Listen**

Isolated from friends who believe the worst because she has not been truthful with them, sixteen-year-old Annabel finds an ally in classmate Owen, whose honesty and passion for music help her to face and share what really happened at the end-of-the-year party that changed her life.

Levithan, David: **Boy Meets Boy**

Paul's simple high-school life is confused by his desire for another boy who seems unattainable, until Paul's friends help him find the courage to pursue him.

Lubar, David: **Sleeping Freshmen Never Lie**

While navigating his first year of high school and awaiting the birth of his new baby brother, Scott loses old friends and gains some unlikely new ones as he hones his skills as a writer.

McCaughrean, Geraldine: **The White Darkness**

Taken to Antarctica by the man she thinks of as her uncle for what she believes to be a vacation, Symone--a troubled fourteen year old--discovers that he is dangerously obsessed with seeking Symme's Hole, an opening that supposedly leads into the center of a hollow Earth.

Murdock, Catherine Gilbert: **The Off Season**

Sequel to **Dairy Queen**. High school junior D. J. Schwenk staggers under the weight of caring for her badly injured brother, her responsibilities on the dairy farm, a changing relationship with her friend Brian, and her own athletic aspirations.

Picoult, Jodi: **My Sister's Keeper**

Thirteen-year-old Anna, conceived specifically to provide blood and bone marrow for her sister Kate who was diagnosed with a rare form of leukemia at the age of two, decides to sue her parents for control of her body when her mother wants her to donate a kidney to Kate.

Reinhardt, Dana: **A Brief Chapter in my Impossible Life**

Sixteen-year-old atheist Simone Turner-Bloom's life changes in unexpected ways when her parents convince her to make contact with her biological mother, an agnostic from a Jewish family who is losing her battle with cancer.

Rorby, Ginny: **Hurt Go Happy**

Thirteen-year-old Joey Willis has been deaf since age six, but her mother has refused to let her learn sign language, leaving Joey struggling to connect with those around her until she meets Dr. Charles Mansell and his baby chimpanzee, who secretly teach Joey how to sign.

Smith, Roland: **Peak**

A fourteen-year-old boy attempts to be the youngest person to reach the top of Mount Everest.

Sonnenblick, Jordan: **Notes from the Midnight Driver**

After being assigned to perform community service at a nursing home, sixteen-year-old Alex befriends a cantankerous old man who has some lessons to impart about jazz guitar playing, love, and forgiveness.

Zevin, Gabrielle: **Memoirs of a Teenage Amnesiac**

After a nasty fall, Naomi realizes that she has no memory of the last four years and finds herself reassessing every aspect of her life. By the author of **Elsewhere**.

Authors: Alex Flinn, Chris Crutcher, Jaclyn Moriarty, Ann Brashares, Julia Alvarez, Mike Lupica, Ellen Wittlinger

FICTION: Fantasy / Science Fiction

Blackman, Malorie: **Naughts and Crosses**

Callum and Sephy played together as small children, and their love is forbidden, now he is a second class citizen, a member of the naughts, and she is a cross, a part of the ruling elite, but when Sephy and her mother are nearly caught in a terrorist bombing and Callum's father is the prime suspect, more than their love is tested.

Bray, Libba: **The Sweet Far Thing**

Sequel to **A Great and Terrible Beauty** and **Rebel Angels**. At Spence Academy, sixteen-year-old Gemma Doyle continues preparing for her London debut while struggling to determine how best to use magic to resolve a power struggle in the enchanted world of the realms, and to protect her own world and loved ones.

DeLint, Charles: **Little (grrl) Lost**

Fourteen-year-old T.J. and her new friend, sixteen-year-old Elizabeth, a six-inch-high "Little" with a big chip on her shoulder, help one another as T.J. tries to adjust to her family's move from a farm to the big city and Elizabeth tries to make her own way in the world.

Hale, Shannon: **Book of a Thousand Days**

Fifteen-year-old Dashti, sworn to obey her sixteen-year-old mistress, the Lady Saren, shares Saren's years of punishment locked in a tower, then brings her safely to the lands of her true love, where both must hide who they are as they work as kitchen maids.

☞ Klause, Annette Curtis: **Blood and Chocolate**

Having fallen for a human boy, a beautiful teenage werewolf must battle both her packmates and the fear of the townspeople to decide where she belongs and with whom.

Knox, Elizabeth: **Dreamquake**

Sequel to **Dreamhunter**. While investigating the government's involvement in the disappearance of her father, Tziga Hame, and the decline of the art of projecting dreams, dreamhunter Laura learns more about "The Place."

☞ LeGuin, Ursula: **Powers**

Sequel to **Gifts** and **Voices**. A tragedy sets Gavir, a young slave, on a dangerous road to freedom and dealing with the powers he has hitherto kept secret, including the ability to see flashes of the future.

☞ Meyer, Stephenie: **Eclipse**

Sequel to **Twilight** and **New Moon**. Bella must choose between her friendship with Jacob, a werewolf, and her relationship with Edward, a vampire, but when Seattle is ravaged by a mysterious string of killings, the three of them need to decide whether their personal lives are more important than the well-being of an entire city.

☞ Pfeffer, Susan Beth: **Life as We Knew it**

Through journal entries sixteen-year-old Miranda describes her family's struggle to survive after a meteor hits the moon, causing worldwide tsunamis, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions. Coming soon: **The Dead and the Gone**.

Thompson, Kate: **The New Policeman**

Fifteen-year-old musician J.J. Liddy leaves his small, Irish town and travels to the land of the fairies to search for time so he can give it to his busy mother, but when he gets there, he discovers that the inhabitants are in trouble and learns about his family's secret history.

Vande Velde, Vivian: **The Book of Mordred**

Under King Arthur's reign, Kiera--daughter of Lady Alayna--is abducted by knights who leave their barn burning and their only servant dead, and Alayna travels to Camelot to entreat Mordred to help rescue her.

Authors: Patricia Wrede, Terry Brooks, Michael Crichton, J.R.R. Tolkien, Terry Prachett, Brian Jacques, Tamora Pierce, Jonathan Stroud

FICTION: Mystery / Suspense / Horror

Alphin, Elaine: **The Perfect Shot**

Brian uses basketball to block out memories of his girlfriend and her family who were murdered; however, the upcoming trial and a high school history assignment force him to face the past.

Carter, Ally: **I'd Tell You I Love You, But Then I'd Have to Kill You**

As a sophomore at a secret spy school and the daughter of a former CIA operative, Cammie is sheltered from "normal teenage life" until she meets a local boy while on a class surveillance mission.

Connor, Leslie: **Dead on Town Line**

A murdered teen's experience of her afterlife includes her efforts to have her body found and to provide comfort to her loved ones. Local author.

Ehrenhaft, Daniel: **Drawing a Blank, or, how I tried to solve a mystery, end a feud, and land the girl of my dreams**

Carlton Dunne IV, an outcast boarding school student with a secret identity as a graphic novelist, teams up with a beautiful Scottish girl who yearns to be an American police officer, to resolve an ancient feud and rescue Carlton's kidnapped father.

Ferguson, Alane: **The Christopher Killer: a forensic mystery**

On the payroll as an assistant to her coroner father, seventeen-year-old Cameryn Mahoney uses her knowledge of forensic medicine to catch the killer of a friend while putting herself in terrible danger. By the author of **The Angel of Death: a forensic mystery**.

📖 Haddon, Mark: **A Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time**

Despite his overwhelming fear of interacting with people, Christopher, a mathematically-gifted, autistic fifteen-year-old boy, decides to investigate the murder of a neighbor's dog and uncovers secret information about his mother.

Hoffman, Mary: **The Falconer's Knot**

Silvano and Chiara, teens sent to live in a friary and a nunnery in Renaissance Italy, are drawn to one another and dream of a future together, but when murders are committed in the friary, they must discover who is behind the crimes before they can realize their love.

King, Laurie: **The Beekeeper's Apprentice**

Mary Russell, an intelligent young woman, becomes the apprentice of Sherlock Holmes.

Madison, Bennet: **Lulu Dark Can See Through Walls**

When someone steals her purse and her identity, high-school junior and reluctant girl sleuth Lulu Dark investigates. By the author of **Lulu Dark and the Summer of the Fox**.

Sorrells, Warren: **Fake ID**

After a lifetime of moving and assuming new identities, sixteen-year-old Chass begins to piece together the past that haunts her and her mother which involves a mysterious tape, a deceased popular singer, and the secrets of several people in a small Alabama town.

Authors: Clive Barker, Tom Clancy, Sue Grafton, Mary Higgins Clark, Clive Cussler, Stephen King, John Grisham, Lois Duncan, Agatha Christie, Sherlock Holmes, Dick Francis, Ian Fleming, Alexander McCall Smith, Robert Ludlum

FICTION: Historical

Cullen, Lynn: **I Am Rembrandt's Daughter**

In Amsterdam in the mid-1600s, Cornelia's life as the illegitimate child of renowned painter Rembrandt is marked by plague, poverty, and despair at ever earning her father's love, until she sees hope for a better future in the eyes of a wealthy suitor.

Fiedler, Lisa: **Romeo's Ex: Rosaline's story**

In a story based on the Shakespeare play, sixteen-year-old Rosaline, who is studying to be a healer, becomes romantically entangled with the Montague family even as her beloved young cousin, Juliet Capulet, defies the family feud to secretly marry Romeo.

Jansen, Hanna: **Over a Thousand Hills I Walk with You**

Jeanne, the only member of her family not murdered in the Rwandan genocide, struggles to start a new life without her family while coping with the violent memories that haunt her.

Johnston, Tony: **Bone by Bone by Bone**

In 1950s Tennessee, ten-year-old David's racist father refuses to let him associate with his best friend Malcolm, an African American boy. The main character has been described as "like Scout" from **To Kill a Mockingbird**.

Peet, Mal: **Tamar**

In England in 1995, fifteen-year-old Tamar, grief-stricken by the puzzling death of her beloved grandfather, slowly begins to uncover the secrets of his life in the Dutch resistance during the last year of the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands, and the climactic events that forever cast a shadow on his life and that of his family.

📖 See, Lisa: **Snow Flower and the Secret Fan**

Friends Snow Flower and Lily find solace in their bond as they face isolation, arranged marriages, loss, and motherhood in nineteenth-century China.

Wells, Rosemary: **Red Moon at Sharpsburg**

Even though the odds are against her and the Civil War has ruined her home and given her a view of the darker side of humanity, thirteen-year-old India Moody continues to aspire to become a scientist and attend Oberlin College.

Authors: Michael Shaara, Allan Stratton, Caleb Carr, Ann Rinaldi, Carolyn Meyer, Graham Salisbury

NON-FICTION: Biography, Autobiography, Memoir

📖 Bryson, Bill: **The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid: a memoir**

The author describes his childhood growing up in Iowa during the 1950s, recalling country fairs, playing hockey, paper routes, church suppers, and other nostalgic memories.

Hakakian, Roya: **Journey from the Land of No: a girlhood caught in revolutionary Iran**

The author shares the story of her experiences coming of age in Iran during the revolution of 1979, discussing her situation as a member of the small Jewish population in the country at a time when Islamic fundamentalists gained control. The second **One Book One Town** selection for Madison in 2007.

Lear, Linda: **Beatrix Potter: a life in nature**

A biography of early twentieth-century children's writer and illustrator, Beatrix Potter, that describes her life and works, her significant scientific and environmental accomplishments, and artistry in storytelling and illustrating.

Silverstein, Ken: **The Radioactive Boy Scout: the true story of a boy and his backyard nuclear reactor**

Tells the story of David Hahn, the Michigan teenager who built a nuclear breeder reactor in his backyard in 1994, endangering the residents of his Michigan hometown and raising the ire of the federal government.

Vise, David: **The Google Story**

Presents an overview of the history of Internet based search engine company Google, from the meeting of the two founders at Stanford University to the development of technology that delivers lightning-fast search results.

Wood, John: **Leaving Microsoft to Change the World: an entrepreneur's odyssey to educate the world's children**

John Wood, former Microsoft leader, explains why he left his powerful position in the company to help improve the educations of Nepalese children and shares what he learned about life, ambition, and faith during his experiences.

GENERAL:

Andersen, Tom: **This Fine Piece of Water: an environmental history of Long Island Sound**

Traces the history of Long Island Sound, one of the most heavily used estuaries in North America, discussing how it has been used as a resource, what impact humans have had on its marine life, how it has been affected by recent suburban sprawl, and how people are working to protect it.

Brashich, Audrey: **All Made Up: a girl's guide to seeing through celebrity hype--and celebrating real beauty**

Explains why the definitions of beauty and success set by celebrities are so powerful and how girls can empower themselves by disregarding these definitions.

📖 Carson, Rachel: **Silent Spring**

Rachel Carson's 1962 environmental classic which identified the dangers of indiscriminate pesticide use. 40th Anniversary Edition released in 2002.

📖 Casagrande, June: **Grammar Snobs are Great Big Meanies: a guide to language for fun and spite**

Explains the basics of English grammar and punctuation, with examples of proper use and structure, along with tips on how to figure out whether or not something is grammatically correct.

📖 Feinstein, John: **Last Dance: behind the scenes at the Final Four**

A collection of stories from coaches, players, referees, and sportscasters that discusses the history of the NCAA basketball tournament, key people, and the effect of the Final Four on its participants.

Gore, Al: **An Inconvenient Truth : the crisis of global warming**

An adaptation of the book in which former Vice President Al Gore examines the climate crisis that is threatening the future of the planet, describes what the world's governments are doing to correct the problem, and explains why the problem should be taken more seriously.

Gravelle, Karen: **The Driving Book: everything new drivers need to know but don't know to ask**

Presents a guide to driving an automobile, for new drivers, and includes anecdotes and information on everyday challenges, from how to drive in bad weather, to unexpected mishaps such as road rage and traffic accidents.

📖 Grogan, John: **Marley & Me: life and love with the world's worst dog**

The author presents a tender story of his family's love for their yellow Labrador retriever, Marley, and recalls how he grew from a mischievous puppy into a nearly impossible adult that no amount of obedience school training could correct, and of the love they felt for him.

McManus, Patrick: **The Bear in the Attic**

Presents thirty essays by Patrick McManus in which he provides his humorous perspective on various aspects of the natural world.

Millan, Cesar: **Cesar's Way: the natural, everyday guide to understanding and correcting common dog problems**

Dog expert Cesar Millan reveals what dogs need to live happy and fulfilled lives and offers pet owners practical suggestions to help them care for their pets without overwhelming them and causing behavior problems.

Morgenstern, Julie: **Organizing from the Inside Out for Teens: the foolproof system for organizing your room, your time, and your life**

Provides teenagers with strategies and tips designed to help them organize their lockers, schoolwork, time, and rooms, discussing the importance of organization and how it can affect every aspect of their lives.

Zimmerman, Keith: **Mythbusters: the explosive truth behind 30 of the most perplexing urban legends of all time**

The authors use extreme science to determine the truth or myth behind thirty urban legends.



Grades 11 and 12

All students are asked to read **four** books. **At least one of the four titles must come from this list.** Students taking AP courses have different requirements, which can be found at the end of this list. Please see the first page of the high school list for a discussion of assessments on the Summer Reading. At the end of the 9-12 list, look for the most popular authors/titles last year and Connecticut authors/titles.

Students are asked to return their recording sheets to their English teachers during the first week of school. If they don't have English class during the first trimester, then they must give them to the Library Media Specialist.

AUDIO FORMAT AVAILABLE

These books are available at Scranton Library as a sound cassette, CD, playaways™ or downloadable audiobook. To access the audiobook collection, you must make one trip to Scranton to create a free account. After that, everything can be done remotely at <http://www.scrantonlibrary.org/>.

FICTION: Realistic

Cameron, Peter: **Someday This Pain Will Be Useful to You**
Eighteen-year-old James Sveck copes with the uncertainties of adolescence as he works in his mother's Manhattan art gallery, falls for a charming older gentleman, and tries to decide what he wants out of life.

Cassidy, Anne: **Looking for JJ**
Seventeen-year-old Alice, released from prison with a new identity after serving six years for murdering a child, tries to keep her anonymity from the British tabloids, while haunted by memories of her past trauma.

Edwards, Kim: **The Memory Keeper's Daughter**
Dr. David Henry, forced to deliver his own twins during a snowstorm in 1964 with only a nurse to help him, makes a decision that has far-reaching effects on his life, and the lives of his wife and son, when his infant daughter is born with Down Syndrome, and in a vain attempt to protect his wife, he orders the nurse to take the baby to an institution

Green, John: **Looking for Alaska**
Sixteen-year-old Miles' first year at Culver Creek Preparatory School in Alabama includes good friends and great pranks, but is defined by the search for answers about life and death after a fatal car crash.

Hosseini, Khaled: **A Thousand Splendid Suns**
A novel set against the three decades of Afghanistan's history shaped by Soviet occupation, civil war, and the Taliban, which tells the stories of two women, Mariam and Laila, who grow close despite their nineteen-year age difference and initial rivalry as they suffer at the hand of a common enemy: their abusive husband.. By the author of **The Kite Runner**.

Jones, Lloyd: **Mister Pip**
On a remote tropical island where villages are overrun by rebel fighting, thirteen-year-old Matilda is introduced to the Charles Dickens classic "Great Expectations" by her white school teacher and becomes enthralled with the story's main character, with whom she feels a connection.

Kyle, Aryn: **The God of Animals**
Alice Winston is left to help support the family business by boarding the horses of their rich neighbors when her older sister runs away and her parents are no longer able to provide for the family.

Levithan, David: **Boy Meets Boy**
Paul's simple high-school life is confused by his desire for another boy who seems unattainable, until Paul's friends help him find the courage to pursue him.

Patchett, Ann: **Run**
Bernard Doyle, former Boston Mayor and father of two adopted sons, has done his best to keep his sons interested in politics; however, one snowy evening an accident triggers into motion a series of events that will change their lives forever.
By the author of **Bel Canto**.

Salinger, J.D.: **The Catcher in the Rye**
An adolescent boy, knowing he is about to be dropped by his school, spends three days and nights in New York City.

Strause, Brian: **Maybe a Miracle**
After eighteen-year-old Monroe Anderson's little sister, Annika, nearly drowns in the family pool, Monroe struggles with who he is and what is worth believing in while his parents cope with the accident in other ways. The narrator has been described as a "Holden Caulfield wannabe" so check out **The Catcher in the Rye**, too!

Werlin, Nancy: **The Rules of Survival**
Seventeen-year-old Matthew recounts his attempts, starting at a young age, to free himself and his sisters from the grip of their emotionally and physically abusive mother.

Authors: Toni Morrison, Kurt Vonnegut, Amy Tan, John Irving, Elizabeth Berg, Anita Shreve, Helen Fielding, Jeffery Archer, Jane Hamilton, Ellen Wittlinger, John Updike, Elaine Marie Alphin, Sue Miller, Mitch Albom. Fanny Flagg, Gail Giles

FICTION: Fantasy / Science Fiction

Connolly, John: **The Book of Lost Things**
Twelve-year-old David's grief over his mother's death at the start of World War II intensifies with his father's remarriage and the impending birth of a sibling, so when his books begin talking to him, tempting him to enter a portal into a magical world, he decides to take the risk.

🔪 Khoury, Raymond: **The Last Templar**

Archaeologist Tess Chaykin and FBI agent Sean Reilly investigate the theft, by four horsemen dressed as Knights Templar, of a coding device that could reveal the order's secrets about early Christian history.

🔪 Maguire, Gregory: **Son of a Witch**

Sequel to **Wicked**. Liir, believed to be the son of Elphaba the wicked witch of the West, has been spared from the destruction of Emerald City and nursed back to health at the Cloister of Saint Glinda; and when he is grown sets out to find his supposed half-sister and fulfill that last wishes of a dying princess.

🔪 Meyer, Stephenie: **Eclipse**

Sequel to **Twilight** and **New Moon**. Bella must choose between her friendship with Jacob, a werewolf, and her relationship with Edward, a vampire, but when Seattle is ravaged by a mysterious string of killings, the three of them need to decide whether their personal lives are more important than the well-being of an entire city.

Rothfuss, Patrick J.: **The Name of the Wind**

Kvothe spends his life fighting hidden and familiar foes while struggling to master his magical powers and battle ancient evils that threaten his world.

Tolkien, J. R. R.: **The Children of Hurin**

Having rummaged through his father's multitudinous papers for 30 years, Christopher Tolkien was finally able to pull together the various pieces (some previously published) that make up this story-important background for the creation of Middle-earth. Author of the **Lord of the Rings** trilogy.

Authors: Michael Crichton, J.R.R. Tolkien, Ray Bradbury, Isaac Asimov, Robin McKinley, David Clement-Davies, T.A. Barron, David Eddings

FICTION: Mystery / Suspense /Horror

Bayard, Louis: **The Pale Blue Eye**

In 1830, a young cadet's body is discovered at West Point Academy, forcing the Academy to call on the services of retired detective Augustus Landor, who in turn draws on the knowledge of a young cadet named Edgar Allan Poe.

Bebris, Carrie: **North by Northanger, (or, The Shades of Pemberley): a Mr. & Mrs. Darcy mystery**

Sequel to **Pride and Prejudice** and **Suspense and Sensibility**. The Darcys are looking forward to some peace and quiet as Elizabeth settles into her pregnancy, but when the couple is summoned to Northanger Abbey, they uncover intrigues that threaten the Darcy legacy and good name, as well as their freedom. Coming soon: **Matters at Mansfield**.

🔪 Harris, Joanne: **Gentlemen and Players**

Young Snyder, whose father was dismissed from St. Oswald's, an aristocratic British boys' school, returns masquerading as a teacher planning revenge. Author of **Chocolat** and **Five Quarters of the Orange**.

🔪 King, Stephen: **Cell**

Maine artist Clayton Riddell, elated after closing the deal for his first comic book, comes down to Earth quickly when a brain-zapping energy burst--The Pulse--strikes, reducing cell phone users to zombie-like creatures, and leaving Clayton desperate to find a way home from Boston to see if his wife and son have survived. New for 2008: **Duma Key**.

Meade, Amy Patricia: **Million Dollar Baby**

Successful young mystery writer Marjorie McClelland, living in the post-Prohibition town of Ridgebury, Connecticut, catches the eye of Creighton Ashcroft, a British heir who has purchased a local mansion, but his hopes of engaging her romantically are dashed when the couple comes across a body while walking in Ashcroft's garden, and the detective who arrives to investigate proves much more interesting to Marjorie.

🔪 Setterfield, Diane: **The Thirteenth Tale**

Aging, reclusive author Vida Winter, having given out multiple versions of her life story over the years, decides to finally set the record straight and engages Margaret Lea, a London bookseller's daughter, to write her biography, drawing the young woman into a tale of a governess, a ghost, a willful woman, feral twins, and a gothic mansion.

🔪 Tan, Amy: **Saving Fish from Drowning**

When Bibi Chen, the leader of a group of twelve American tourists, mysteriously dies while on an art expedition in the Himalayan foothills of China, the remainder of the group discover that the Burma Road is filled with danger and uncertainty.

Authors: Patricia Cornwall, John Grisham, Ken Follett, Janet Evanovich, Agatha Christie, Dick Francis, Tony Hillerman, Rex Stout, Martha Grimes, Carol Plum-Ucci, P.D. James, Elizabeth Peters, Steven Saylor

FICTION: Historical

Andersen, Kurt: **Heyday**

Aristocratic Benjamin Knowles impulsively leaves the Old World in the mid-nineteenth century and travels to New York where he is befriended by muckraking journalist Timothy Skaggs, Mexican War veteran and firefighter Duff Lucking, and Duff's actress sister Polly, and together the four set off for the frontier, chasing the prospects of new beginnings and California gold.

🔪 Crile, George: **Charlie Wilson's War: the extraordinary story of the largest covert operation in history**

Recounts the events surrounding the last battle of the Cold War and discusses how those events fueled the new jihad and led to the rise of militant Islam.

Fiedler, Lisa: **Dating Hamlet: Ophelia's story**

In a story based on the Shakespeare play, Ophelia describes her relationship with Hamlet, learns the truth about her own father, and recounts the complicated events following the murder of Hamlet's father. By the author of **Romeo's Ex: Rosaline's Story**.

📖 Gregory, Philippa: **The Boleyn Inheritance**
Presents a novel that surrounds three women whose positions brought them wealth and notoriety in the court of King Henry VIII as well as deceit and betrayal. By the author of **The Other Boleyn Girl**.

Iggulden, Conn: **Genghis: birth of an empire**
Tartar raids kill the father of Temujin and banishes his family from the land; but when he grows older, he assembles a small army of men and begins raiding Tartar camps and eventually unites all the Mongol tribes together.

Johnson, Denis: **Tree of Smoke**
CIA officer William "Skip" Sands travels to Vietnam in 1967 as part of a team running deceptive operations against North Vietnam, but his involvement in their latest assignment is complicated by a Canadian nurse and two brothers whose misguided beliefs threaten the entire operation.

LeGuin, Ursula: **Lavinia**
Lavinia, daughter of King Latinus and Queen Amata, gets caught in the middle of her parent's conflicting wishes that she marry either Turnus, king of Rutuli, or Trojan stranger Aeneas, which follows an omen that dictates she will cause a war, and that her husband will die young.

📖 Naslund, Sena Jeter: **Ahab's Wife, or, The Star-Gazer**
A companion to Herman Melville's "Moby-Dick," in which Una Spenser tells the story of her life, and discusses her loving marriage to Captain Ahab before the white whale took his leg and drove him into madness.

Sayres, Meghan Nuttall: **Anahita's Woven Riddle**
In Iran, a young girl with three suitors gets permission from her father and a holy man to weave into her wedding rug a riddle to be solved by her future husband, which will ensure that he has wit to match hers.

📖 See, Lisa: **Snow Flower and the Secret Fan**
Friends Snow Flower and Lily find solace in their bond as they face isolation, arranged marriages, loss, and motherhood in nineteenth-century China.

📖 Shaara, Michael: **The Killer Angels: a novel of the Civil War**
Presents a fictional account of four days in July, 1863, at the Battle of Gettysburg, discussing tactics, plans, and preparations for battle from both the Northern and Southern points of view. The first in a series. *Gettysburg* is the film adaptation of this novel.

📖 Zusak, Markus: **The Book Thief**
Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel--a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors.

Authors: Ursula Hegi, Dan Brown, Willa Cather, E.L. Doctorow

DRAMA:

Pulitzer Prize Winners:

Auburn, David: **Proof**
Catherine, having spent years caring for her brilliant but unstable mathematician father, is forced to deal with her own volatile emotions in the days following his death.

Edson, Margaret: **Wit**
When English professor Vivian Bearing is diagnosed with terminal cancer, she is forced to reevaluate her life.

Shanley, John Patrick: **Doubt, a parable**
A play set in the Bronx in 1964 about a nun, Sister Aloysius, who suspects that Father Flynn has more than a casual interest in the school's first African-American student.

Wilson, August: **Fences**
Troy Maxson, a strong, hard man who has learned how to be Black and proud in the 1950s, finds the changing spirit of the 1960s hard to deal with.

Classics:

Ibsen, Henrik: **The Wild Duck**
A play that illustrates the destructive impact on an average family of a neurotic fanatic who fails to understand the consequences of his behavior.

📖 Miller, Arthur: **All My Sons**
A play about Joe Keller, a manufacturer of aircraft parts during World War II who allows faulty cylinder heads to be sold to the Army and when caught, blames his employee and neighbor, destroying many lives in the process.

Authors: Tennessee Williams, Edward Albee, August Wilson, Eugene O'Neill, George Bernard Shaw, Neil Simon

NON-FICTION: Biography, Autobiography, Memoir

📖 Beah, Ishmael: **A Long Way Gone: memoirs of a boy soldier**
Ishmael Beah describes his experiences after he was driven from his home by war in Sierra Leone and picked up by the government army at the age of thirteen, serving as a soldier for three years before being removed from fighting by UNICEF and eventually moving to the United States.

Bush, Jenna: **Ana's Story: a journey of hope**
Jenna Bush presents a nonfiction account of Ana, a young Latin American mother, who shared with Bush the loss of her parents to AIDS, abuse from her grandmother and aunt, and of her own battle with AIDS.

📖 Hirsi Ali, Ayaan: **Infidel**
Ayaan Hirsi Ali recounts her life story, discussing her traditional Muslim childhood in Somalia, Saudi Arabia, and Kenya, her intellectual awakening and activism in the Netherlands, and her current life under armed guard in the West.

Lewis, Michael: **The Blind Side: evolution of a game**

Details the life of University of Mississippi football player Michael Oher, who was raised by a crack addicted mother and adopted at the age of sixteen by a wealthy family, and explores the rising importance and salary of the offensive left tackle in the game of football.

Partridge, Elizabeth: **John Lennon: All I want is the truth**

Presents a biography of musician John Lennon, chronicling his life and times from his troubled childhood in Liverpool, England, through his career writing, recording, and performing as a member of the Beatles. Includes 140 black-and-white photographs.

Polly, Matthew: **American Shaolin: flying kicks, Buddhist monks, and the legend of iron crotch: an odyssey in the new China**

Matthew Polly recounts the experiences he had during the two years he spent living and studying in China, performing with the Shaolin monks, who taught Matthew important lessons about life and his place in the universe.

Santiago, Esmeralda: **Almost a Woman**

Esmeralda Santiago discusses what it was like to grow up as a Puerto Rican teenager in New York and to go against the wishes of her over-protective mother and discover her true identity.

Spragins, Ellyn (Editor): **What I Know Now: letters to my younger self**

A collection of letters in which forty-one famous women write letters to the women they once were, offering advice and insights into life, love, relationships, and the world.

☞ Swofford, Anthony: **Jarhead: a marine's chronicle of the Gulf War and other battles**

The author, a U.S. Marine, recounts his disturbing experiences in the 1991 Gulf War and reflects upon the emotional damage he suffered and the nature of both the American military and war itself.

Tillman, Mary: **Boots on the Ground by Dusk: the remarkable life and death of Pat Tillman**

After 9/11, Pat Tillman left his career with the Arizona Cardinals and enlisted in the U.S. Army. On April 22, 2004, he was killed by the enemy in Afghanistan, according to initial reports. Later it was revealed that he was killed by friendly fire. His mother tells of her son's extraordinary life and the family's efforts to uncover the truth about what happened.

Wood, John: **Leaving Microsoft to Change the World: an entrepreneur's odyssey to educate the world's children**

John Wood, former Microsoft leader, explains why he left his powerful position in the company to help improve the educations of Nepalese children and shares what he learned about life, ambition, and faith during his experiences.

GENERAL:

Bhutto, Benazir: **Reconciliation: Islam, democracy, and the West**

Former prime minister of Pakistan Benazir Bhutto discusses the rise of Islamic radicalism, contending that autocratic rulers, manipulative religious leaders, and the Western world have threatened the chance of democracy in Pakistan. She completed the manuscript for this book just days prior to her assassination.

Bowden, Mark: **Killing Pablo: the hunt for the world's greatest outlaw**

Traces the rise of Columbian drug lord Pablo Escobar and his ultimate defeat--death in 1993, after a sixteen-month manhunt, at the hands of a Columbian Search Bloc team with help from the U.S. Author of **Black Hawk Down**.

Bradley, James: **Flyboys: a true story of courage**

Examines the disappearance of eight American airmen shot down and taken prisoner on the remote island of Chichi Jima in World War II and the secrecy that surrounded the events for decades, and discusses the violence inflicted by both sides in the Pacific war.

☞ Brokaw, Tom: **Boom! : voices of the sixties**

Journalist Tom Brokaw looks back on life in the United States during the 1960s, sharing the perspectives and experiences of famous and ordinary people who were affected by the tumultuous times, discussing changes that occurred in politics, culture, and society, and looking at how the era influenced events to come.

☞ Casagrande, June: **Grammar Snobs are Great Big Meanies: a guide to language for fun and spite**

Explains the basics of English grammar and punctuation, with examples of proper use and structure, along with tips on how to figure out whether or not something is grammatically correct.

Conlon, Faith, et al, editors: **Go Your Own Way: women travel the world solo**

Twenty-three women share stories of their experiences traveling alone in locations throughout the world.

Dyson, Michael Eric: **Come Hell or High Water**

The author examines the events in New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina, and argues that the nation's failure to offer timely aid to Katrina victims indicates deeper problems in race and class relations.

☞ Friedman, Thomas: **The World is Flat: a brief history of the 21st century, 3.0 expanded edition**

Contains an overview of the global political and economic change since the turn of the twenty-first century, discussing the rapid developments in technologies that have allowed India and China to become part of a growing supply chain of manufacturing impacting global markets.

Gill, Michael Gates: **How Starbucks Saved My Life: a son of privilege learns to live like everyone else**

Michael Gates Gill shares how a job at his local Starbucks helped him rebuild his life after he lost his job and his family, sharing how the job taught him about what was truly important and offering an inside look at life behind the Starbucks' counter.

📖 Gladwell, Malcolm: **Blink: the power of thinking without thinking**

Presents a study of how people think without thinking, looking at the brain processes involved in making snap decisions, discussing why some people seem to have great instincts while others consistently choose unwisely, and examining ways to control the process.

Gunn, Tim: **Tim Gunn: a guide to quality, taste, and style**

One of the stars of Bravo TV's *Project Runway*, Tim Gunn gives style and fashion advice.

📖 Harr, Jonathan: **The Lost Painting**

Recounts the events surrounding the discovery of Italian Baroque artist Caravaggio's masterpiece *The Taking of Christ*, which went undiscovered for decades in a dusty attic, and explores the controversy surrounding the painting's discovery and restoration. By the author of **A Civil Action**.

Hemphill, Stephanie: **Your Own, Sylvia: a verse portrait of Sylvia Plath**

A series of poems that provide a chronological portrait of the life of Sylvia Plath, told in the voices of family members, friends, associates, and others who knew her.

Kerasote, Ted: **Merle's Door**

Recounts the events surrounding the discovery of Italian Ted Kerasote recounts the unique bond he formed with a dog he found living on its own in the wild and shares the experiences they had together.

📖 King, Stephen: **On Writing: a memoir of the craft**

Stephen King reflects on how his writing has helped him through difficult times and describes various aspects of the art of writing.

📖 Kingsolver, Barbara: **Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: a year of food life**

The author tells how she and her family relocated to southern Appalachia from Arizona in order to live a simpler life, grow their own food, and live among a community of local organic growers.

📖 Levitt, Steven D. & Dubner, Stephen J.: **Freakonomics: a rogue economist explores the hidden side of everything**

The authors explore the economics of real-world issues often viewed as insignificant, such as the extent to which the Roe v. Wade decision affected violent crime, and examine hidden incentives behind all sorts of human behavior.

📖 Mortenson, Greg: **Three Cups of Tea: one man's mission to fight terrorism and build nations--one school at a time**

Greg Mortenson recounts the experiences he had while trying to help impoverished villages in Pakistan's Karakoram Himalaya build schools for their children.

Thacker, Lloyd, editor: **College Unranked: ending the college admissions frenzy**

Presents a collection of essays by veteran college admissions counselors that provide advice on the college selection and admission process.

📖 Tammet, Daniel: **Born on a Blue Day: inside the extraordinary mind of an autistic savant**

Daniel Tammet, an autistic savant, offers an inside look at his life, describing how his rare condition, which gives him incredible mental powers and a compulsive need for order and routine, has influenced every aspect of his life and what challenges he has faced while trying to be independent.

Vise, David A. and Mark Malseed. : **The Google Story**

Presents an overview of the history of Internet based search engine company Google, from the meeting of the two founders at Stanford University to the development of technology that delivers lightning-fast search results.



Connecticut Authors / Titles

Bloom, Amy	L'Engle, Madeleine
Clendenen, Corinna	Lupica, Mike
Connor, Leslie	Miller, Arthur
Cooney, Caroline	Pickering, Samuel F.
Friesner, Esther	Roth, Philip
Isleib, Roberta	Twin, Mark
Lamb, Wally	Weber, Katharine

Lists for Most Popular Last Summer and AP Course Requirements are on the next page.

Most Popular Last Summer

Authors/Titles

Albom, Mitch: **For One More Day, Tuesdays with Morrie, Five People You Meet in Heaven**
Alphin, Elaine: **The Perfect Shot**
Anderson, Laurie Halse: **Prom, Speak, Catalyst, Twisted**
Austen, Jane: **Pride and Prejudice, Sense and Sensibility, Emma, et al**
Connor, Leslie: **Dead on Town Line**
Coy, John: **Crackback**
Dessen, Sarah: **Just Listen, Someone Like You, The Truth About Forever, This Lullaby, et al**
Green, John: **Looking for Alaska**
Haddon, Mark: **The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time**
Hosseini, Khaled: **The Kite Runner, A Thousand Splendid Suns**
Klauser, Annette Curtis: **Blood and Chocolate**
Lubar, David: **Sleeping Freshmen Never Lie**
Lupica, Mike: **Too Far, Heat, Travel Team, Summer Ball**
Meyer, Stephenie: **Twilight, New Moon, Eclipse**
Murdoch, Catherine Gilbert: **Dairy Queen**
Paolini, Christopher: **Eldest, Eragon**
Picoult, Jodi: **My Sister's Keeper, Tenth Circle, The Pact, Nineteen Minutes, et al**
Salinger, J.D.: **Catcher in the Rye**
Sebold, Alice: **Lovely Bones**
Sittenfeld, Curtis: **Prep**
Sorrells, Walter: **Fake ID**
Werlin, Nancy: **Double Helix**
Zevin, Gabrielle: **Elsewhere**

Series

Brashares, Ann: **Traveling Pants series**
Cabot, Meg: **The Princess Diaries series**
Dean, Zoey: **The A-list series**
De la Cruz, Melissa: **Au Pair series**
Harrison, Lisi: **Clique series**
Horowitz, Anthony: **Alex Rider Adventures series and Gatekeepers series**
Kinsella, Sophie: **Shopaholic series**
Myracle, Lauren: **TTYL series**
Riordan, Rick: **Percy Jackson and The Olympians series**
Rolling, J.K.: **Harry Potter series**
VonZiegesar, Cecily: **Gossip Girls series**

AP Courses

AP students must read the books listed for each of their courses. In some cases, you will have assignments to complete over the summer.

Students are asked to return their recording sheets to their English teachers during the first week of school. If they don't have English class during the first trimester, then they must give them to the Library Media Specialist.

AP English

The novels listed below are the core of the first unit in literature. You should take notes on characters, setting, plot, theme, and symbolism. You should be prepared for in-depth discussion and for assessments on each of these novels.

You must read ALL of the following:

- 📖 Forster, E.M.: **A Passage to India**
- 📖 Heller, Joseph: **Catch-22**
- 📖 Hosseini, Khaled: **The Kite Runner**
- 📖 Hurston, Zora Neale: **Their Eyes Were Watching God**
- 📖 Huxley, Aldous: **Brave New World**

AP U.S. History

You will be given a textbook and an assignment before leaving school in June.

You must read the following:

Faragher, et al: **Out of Many: a history of the American people, 5th edition, AP edition**

Chapters 1, 2, & 3.

AP European History / Western Civilization

You must read the following:

- 📖 Manchester, William: **A World Lit Only by Fire: The Medieval Mind and the Renaissance – Portrait of an Age**

AP Psychology

You will be given readings from your textbook to complete for this course before leaving school in June. You must also read:

Sacks, Oliver: **The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat and Other Clinical Tales** (therapy)

There is a written assignment required along with this book that is defined in the handout you will receive with your textbook.

There is an additional reading/writing assignment that will be given at the beginning of the second trimester and will be chosen from the list below and submitted by January 5, 2009:

Blass, Thomas: **The Man Who Shocked the World**
(Stanley Milgram)

Coren, Stanley: **Sleep Thieves**
(sleep and dreams)

Gregory, Julie: **Sickened: the memoir of a Munchausen by proxy childhood**
(child abuse)

Jamison, Kay Redfield: **An Unquiet Mind**
(bipolar disorder)

Rapoport, Judith L.: **The Boy Who Couldn't Stop Washing: the experience and treatment of obsessive compulsive disorder**
(OCD)

🌀 Robison, John: **Look Me in the Eye: my life with Asperger's**
(Asperger's syndrome)

🌀 Sacks, Oliver: **Musicophilia: tales of music and the brain**
(brain)

Schiller, Lori: **The Quiet Room**
(schizophrenia)

Shawn, Allen: **Wish I Could be There: notes from a phobic life**
(phobias)

Wagner, Pamela and Carolyn Spiro: **Divided Minds: twin sisters and their journey through schizophrenia**
(schizophrenia)

Madison Public Schools' Summer Reading List
Grades 9 – 12 RECORDING SHEET

Please return this form to your English teacher or to the Library Media Specialist no later than the first week of September 2008.

Student Name: _____

PLEASE CIRCLE: **Male** or **Female** / **Grade 9** **10** **11** **12**

	AUTHOR	TITLE	<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
#1			<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
#2			<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
#3			<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
#4			<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
#5			<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
#6			<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
#7			<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel

#8		<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
# 9		<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
# 10		<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
# 11		<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
# 12		<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
# 13		<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
# 14		<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
# 15		<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
# 16		<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel

#17		<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
# 18		<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
# 19		<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
# 20		<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
# 21		<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
# 22		<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
# 23		<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
# 24		<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
# 25		<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
# 26		<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel

Board of Education Meeting
April 22, 2008
Town Campus

Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Chairman Robert Hale at 7:10 p.m.

Present: Bill Clorite; Becky Coffey; John Dean; Debbie Frey; Harriet Gowanlock; Robert Hale, Seth Klaskin; Robert Ruggiero

Also present: David Klein, Superintendent and Anita Rutlin, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment.

1. Executive Session

MOTION: by Frey seconded by Gowanlock to enter Executive Session at 7:10 p.m. to discuss personnel and legal issues.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Klaskin, Ruggiero

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

Confidential personnel matters were discussed.

Legal matters were discussed.

Atty. Sellers entered the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

MOTION: by Gowanlock, seconded by Coffey to adjourn Executive Session at 7:35 p.m.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Klaskin, Ruggiero, Sellers

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

The public session of the Board of Education meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Hale at 7:40 p.m. Chairman Hale led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Bill Clorite; Becky Coffey; John Dean, Debbie Frey; Harriet Gowanlock; Robert Hale; Seth Klaskin; Robert Ruggiero; Holly Sellers

Also present: David Klein, Superintendent; Anita Rutlin, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment; district administrators; faculty; staff; students; community members.

3. School Community Session

Recognition: Public School Volunteer Week.

Chairman Hale stated that April 17-23, 2008 is Public School Volunteer Week and Mr. Klein announced that members of the Parents' Representatives Council were in the audience by invitation of the Board to be recognized for their volunteer activities. He thanked them, on behalf of all the volunteers in our schools, for all the hard work and time they donate to the schools. Mr. Klein stated that their efforts go far beyond fund raising, and they provide a great deal of support to the students and staff of the Madison Public Schools. PRC members Lisa Rollins, Janice Florentine and Ann Marino were in attendance. They were presented

with Certificates of Appreciation for each school's PTO and the Daniel Hand High School APTS group signed by Mr. Klein and Chairman Hale.

3.2. Public Participation

Mr. Rick Flanders, 553 Durham Road, raised questions regarding the Athletics budget, specifically ice hockey expenses and student registration fees. Craig Semple, Director of Athletics, explained that the costs associated with ice rental are subsidized by parents and that registration fee dollars support expansion of the Athletics Program.

Mr. Flanders also asked for an explanation of MAPAC. Chairman Hale cited the Sailing Club at Daniel Hand High School as a new program recently implemented through the MAPAC process.

4. Board of Education Student Representatives' Report

Emma Norris reported that the second annual College Fair is scheduled for Thursday, April 24th in the Daniel Hand High School Dining and Assembly Hall. This is a great opportunity for juniors and their parents to learn about different colleges. More than 100 colleges and universities will be represented.

Ms. Norris reported on Earth Day events at Daniel Hand High School. There was a banner in the dining and assembly hall and a Power Point presentation ran during all lunch waves. Both were created by the Environmental Club and were appreciated and enjoyed by the other students.

Mr. Presti reported that the Junior Prom is being held on Friday, April 26th in the Dining and Assembly Hall from 7:30 – 11:00 pm. Students are working in conjunction with Safe Rides and SMASH to keep prom goers safe and remind them of the dangers of drinking and driving. A student created assembly is being held during 2nd period on Friday morning to address the junior class about being safe on prom night.

Chairman Hale asked Mr. Presti if he was a member of the newly formed Sailing Club. Mr. Presti responded that he is; the club is out and sailing and they practice most days (weather permitting).

5. Superintendent's Report

5.1. Information Share: Second Annual Environment Gift from the Madison Land Conservation Trust to Michael Docker and John Gaskell, Daniel Hand High School Science Teachers.

Mr. Klein introduced Joseph Oslander, David Skelly and Michael Maloney of the Madison Land Conservation Trust. Mr. Oslander stated that he felt Earth Day was the perfect day to make this presentation. He spoke to the fact that many of the issues of the first Earth Day in 1970 are still relevant today and he is pleased to see professionals in the Madison Public Schools working with students to teach them about environmental issues they need to be aware of. Mr. Oslander complimented the grass roots work of Mr. Docker and Mr. Gaskell, and was pleased to present the Madison Land Conservation Trust's Environment Gift for Mr. Docker's Marine Science and Technology course and Mr. Gaskell's Principles of Ecology course.

5.2. Information Share: Daniel Hand High School, First Place Winner of the Michael's Achievement Cup in Class L Sports

Mr. Klein reported on this award given to Daniel Hand High School for excellence in athletics, and stated that a presentation banquet will be held on April 27th. He stated that this award speaks to the quality of the programs and the student athletes – their citizenship and sportsmanship – in Madison Public Schools. Mr. Semple stated that it was a great honor to receive this award. He reiterated that this was not an award based on wins and losses but on the quality of the overall program. Mr. Semple went on to say that this is a tribute to the student athletes and coaches, who always strive for excellence.

5.3. Update on Tiger Fitness Center

Mr. Klein asked Mr. Semple to give an update on the Tiger Fitness Center.

Mr. Semple stated that the center has been open for a little more than one year and is very popular with students; they are proud of the fitness center and highly motivated to utilize it. The center is open from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday and there are two certified staff members at the facility (one from the high school and one from the middle school). Teams can use the center outside of those normal operating hours as long as they are supervised by a Coach. The center is used every day by students, teachers and coaches.

Mr. Semple reported that a study conducted by the Athletics Department shows that from January to date there have been 3,000 visits to the fitness center. He added that it is used by every team at the high school and middle school level, as well as for some academic courses (physiology, anatomy and even Odyssey of the Mind). He also stated that he is working with the Beach and Recreation Department to try to develop summer programs at the fitness center. Mr. Semple reported that the service contract for equipment maintenance is due to expire soon, and he is researching vendors to provide this service.

Mr. Semple then asked Emma Norris to share her feeling about the fitness center with the Board, since she uses it on a regular basis. Ms. Norris stated that the fitness center is an amazing place; it is a clean, fun environment and she loves using it every day. She stated that the staff is very helpful and the center is accepting of all types of athletes, who are able to work out side by side. Ms. Norris stated that using the fitness center on a daily basis has definitely enhanced her athletic ability.

Atty. Sellers asked for more information about the summer program that is being developed. Mr. Semple responded that they are planning three separate sessions focusing on different areas (agility, strength, etc.) and it will be open to anyone interested. He stated that the plans should be finalized by the end of May.

Ms. Coffey asked if most students using the center work with their coaches to develop individualized programs. Mr. Semple replied that most students seem to follow some type of program, whether developed by a coach, an outside individual such as a trainer, or the student him/herself.

Chairman Hale asked if after one year of use, there were any modifications that Mr. Semple sees should be made. Mr. Semple responded that he does have some ideas that he will bring to the May 1st Planning Committee Meeting.

Mr. Klein stated that there are plans in future is to solicit advice from an industry professional regarding the set up and lay out of the equipment.

6. Board Member Comments

Chairman Hale reported that he had attended the April 4th production of South Pacific and it was an outstanding production.

Chairman Hale also stated that he had visited Stop & Shop on Saturday to participate in the Daniel Hand High School Environment Club's bag exchange. By dropping off ten plastic bags, participants received one cloth bag free. Chairman Hale complimented the Environmental Club for their efforts in support of a very worthwhile cause.

Ms. Gowanlock suggested that it would help the environment if more students would ride the school bus to Daniel Hand High School. The buses go there every day regardless of the number of students riding, and it would be environmentally conscience for students to use them rather than driving themselves or

having their parents drive them. Ms. Gowanlock wondered if there was a way to generate interest among the high school students to “go green by riding yellow”.

7. Distribution of Executive Summaries from Board Committees/Liaisons

7.1. Planning Committee

Ms. Frey reported that the Committee has been meeting to discuss elementary space utilization. The committee has been working with the elementary principals and will continue to explore how to best meet the needs for grades K-4. The committee is currently exploring one three building model and two different four building models. Two of the proposed models are ‘neighborhood school’ models. The three building model would consist of reopening Academy School and having Academy, Jeffrey and Ryerson schools all house grades K-4. The Pre-K program would be housed at Jeffrey School.

The first four building model would consist of housing the Pre-K and Kindergarten programs at Island Avenue School, and having Academy, Jeffrey and Ryerson each house grades 1-4. The four building ‘neighborhood school’ model would consist of Jeffrey and Ryerson Schools housing Kindergarten through Grade 4; the “southern campus” would be comprised of Island Avenue School (K-2) and Academy School, (Grades 3-4).

The elementary principals favor the four building neighborhood school model, and Ms. Frey stated that this appears to be the most cost effective use of facilities. She said the next step will be to hire a consultant to study the data and cost effectiveness of the different models. Ms. Frey further stated that the four building neighborhood school approach would not alter the programs at what would be the Island Avenue / Academy School campus. She also stated there are pros and cons to all options and the Committee and the elementary principals are working to find the best solution for the district.

Mr. Klein reiterated that these are program driven models and would make for an equitable distribution of the population in the short term and the long term.

Ms. Gowanlock raised a concern about managing the Kindergarten program in three different buildings. Ms. Frey replied that the plans do include full day kindergarten.

Chairman Hale asked to add to the agenda a report from Bill Clorite, Chairman of the Island Avenue School Building Committee.

Mr. Clorite reported that the Committee had met twice already and have solicited bids for the boiler replacement. They met with the low bidder on April 21st and will meet again on Thursday, April 24th. If all goes well, the Committee hopes to make recommendation to the Board of Selectmen to approve the vendor at their meeting on Monday, April 28th. The asbestos removal will be done over a two week period. It’s crucial to make a commitment soon to a vendor for the boiler replacement because there is a 6-8 week lead time for the boiler itself. Barring any unforeseen issues, the vendor is confident that the boiler replacement can be completed in advance of the first day of school.

7.2. Personnel Committee

Mr. Dean reported that the next contract negotiation will be with the AMA and must commence by July 18th. The process will begin soon.

7.3. Policy Committee

Ms. Gowanlock reported that the Committee had met earlier in the evening. They have begun discussing revisions to our existing policy on student exchange programs and have started researching some points relating to the policy. She also reported that the Committee is ready to move Policy #4160, Student Activity – Transportation / Vehicles be adopted. This policy deals with teachers, coaches or parents transporting students to extracurricular events. Ms. Gowanlock stated that transporting students in this manner is the least desirable method and would only happen as a last resort, but a policy and guidelines need to be in place in the event that it occurs.

Ms. Frey commented that she was glad that the district is looking into opportunities for students to participate in exchange programs. Ms. Gowanlock responded that there are a lot of issues involved with students participating in travel / exchange programs, but it will be good to have a current policy in place.

7.4. Finance Committee

Ms. Coffey reported that we are 'in the black' for the current year's budget and accounts are being monitored closely, especially Special Education and the Legal expense account.

Ms. Coffey next reported that the Board of Finance had met the night before and voted to reduce the Board of Education budget by an additional \$50,000. Preliminary discussion ensued about where these cuts should come from. No decisions have been made as of yet, but some possible areas that might be affected are extracurricular activities at the middle school level and the Board's Community Outreach Committee. Mr. Klein reported that he had already spoken with middle school principals Frank Henderson and Julie Phelps and they were both confident that the extracurricular programs at their respective schools could still operate with nominal student fees. Mr. Klein also stated that he was meeting with the Administrative Council on April 23rd and would discuss the additional reductions with them.

Atty. Sellers commented that she appreciated that the additional reductions appear to be chosen to minimize the effect of the reductions on classrooms.

Chairman Hale said that while discussions would continue, the suggested reductions were a good starting point.

7.5. Community Outreach Committee

Atty. Klaskin reported that the April 7th breakfast at Daniel Hand High School was the highest attended Community Outreach event to date. He thanked the students and staff of Daniel Hand for a wonderful time and reported that all who attended enjoyed seeing the students and the school in action.

Atty. Klaskin reported that the next and final Community Outreach breakfast for this year will be held on Friday, May 9th at the Kathleen H. Ryerson Elementary School. This event is open to the public and Atty. Klaskin encouraged community members to attend. The discussion topic for this event is the RtI (Response to Intervention) Model with allows for individualized attention to all students.

7.6. LEARN Liaison

Mr. Dean reported that he had been to two meetings so far. He gave a brief overview of LEARN for the new Board members, explaining that LEARN is one of six Regional Educational Service Organizations in Connecticut, serving 24 shoreline districts.

8. Audience Response to Information Presented

Mr. Rick Flanders again addressed the Board stating that he didn't think budget cuts should be made to the middle school extracurricular program. His opinion is that these extracurricular activities should be run much the same as athletics, with participants paying a fee. Ms. Gowanlock stated that the Board's position is that charging registration fees for these programs is preferable to not having the programs at all. The interest is there and the one of the Board's goals is to improve after school activities for our students and make them happen somehow.

Mr. Klein stated that the suggested budget cuts are not to say there is no value in the program and all involved hope the programs will continue. He thanked Mr. Flanders for his comments and said there was no lack of commitment to what he was saying.

9. Consent Agenda (Items 9.1. – 9.6.)

9.1. Bills Payable: \$281.50 (06-07), \$809,248.95 (07-08)

- 9.2. Line Transfers: \$43,031.70
- 9.3. Donation: \$2,000.00 to the Island Avenue Elementary School Library Media Center from the Island Avenue Elementary School PTO
- 9.4. Donation: Books and media valued at \$1,200.00 to the Walter C. Polson Middle School Library Media Center from the Walter C. Polson Middle School PTO
- 9.5. Acknowledgment: Out of State Travel for Daniel Hand High School
- 9.6. Textbook Adoption:
- Chemistry: Principles and Reactions
Daniel Hand High School Advanced Placement Chemistry,
University of Connecticut, Early College Experience Freshmen Chemistry
 - Succeeding in the World of Work
Daniel Hand High School Cooperative Work Education

MOTION by Sellers seconded by Dean to approve the Consent Agenda.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Klaskin, Ruggiero, Sellers
NAYS: None
MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

Ms. Gowanlock commented on the generous donations to the schools from the PTO's and how much they help. She stated that without these donations, the budget would grow exponentially.

10. Action Item: Minutes of April 1, 2008 Board of Education Meeting

MOTION: by Coffey, seconded by Dean to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2008 Board of Education meeting.

Ms. Coffey stated that there was an error in Item 7.3. of the minutes regarding the boiler replacement at Island Avenue Elementary School. The minutes as presented read that this project was now part of Planned and Cycled Maintenance. The minutes should reflect that the project is now part of LOCAP.

MOTION: by Chairman Hale, seconded by Coffey to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2008 Board of Education meeting as corrected.

AYES: Coffey, Dean, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Klaskin, Ruggiero, Sellers
NAYS: None
ABSTENTIONS: Clorite
MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

11. Action Item: Minutes of April 10, 2008 Special Meeting

MOTION: By Frey, seconded by Coffey to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2008 Special Meeting.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Ruggiero
NAYS: None
ABSTENTIONS: Klaskin, Sellers
MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

12. Action Item: Donation of \$1,000 to the Daniel Hand High School Science Department from the Madison Land Conservation Trust.

MOTION: by Frey, seconded by Ruggiero to approve the donation of \$1,000 to the Daniel Hand High School Science Department from the Madison Land Conservation Trust.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Klaskin, Ruggiero, Sellers
NAYS: None
MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

13. Action Item: Approval of Policy #4160, Student Activity – Transportation / Vehicles

MOTION: by the Policy Committee to approve Policy #4160, Student Activity – Transportation / Vehicles.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Klaskin, Ruggiero, Sellers
NAYS: None
MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

14. Old Business

15. New Business

- Chairman Hale stated that he wished to add to the agenda that he and David Klein had attended a meeting the previous evening with the Madison Property Owner's Association to answer questions raised by some members at the last public hearing. Both Chairman Hale and Mr. Klein said the meeting was very cordial and they addressed many questions. They felt members of the MPOA appreciated their attendance at the meeting and their willingness to answer questions. Chairman Hale further stated that he does not believe the real issue with this group is the Board of Education budget – it is senior citizen tax relief.

Mr. Klein stated that he was not sure they changed the opinion of anyone from the MPOA but he sensed an appreciation that their questions were heard. He also stated that a member of the MPOA said that they think the Board of Education does an excellent job of developing the budget and they are supportive of the process if not necessarily the dollars. Mr. Klein expects this dialog to be ongoing.

- Textbook Adoption Preview (April 22 – May 6, 2008)
 - Precalculus With Limits
Houghton Mifflin Publisher
Daniel Hand High School Precalculus
 - The Practice of Statistics
Bedford, Freeman & Worth Publishing Group
Daniel Hand High School Advanced Placement Statistics

Ms. Rutlin stated that these books will be available for review in the Central Office for the next two weeks.

- Chairman Hale stated that the Board of Education Retreat tentatively scheduled for April 26, 2008 will be canceled due to not all Board members being available. He will suggest some dates and try to find one in the near future that works for everyone.

Mr. Ruggiero commented that he was very impressed after the budget presentations with the lack of bitterness between sides. He said there is a real willingness from all parties to discuss the budget and no one group has an agenda. He was glad that Chairman Hale and Mr. Klein made the outreach to the Madison Property Owners Association.

Ms. Gowanlock reiterated Mr. Ruggiero's comments and stated it was commendable for Chairman Hale and Mr. Klein to attend the MPOA meeting. She also stated that while \$50,000 is a fair dent to the Board of Education's budget, it computes to approximately .1 mil, or a difference of only \$30 - \$40 in annual tax savings for the average homeowner in Madison.

16. Future Agenda Items

17. Meetings of Importance

Chairman Hale referred to the list of upcoming meetings on the Board agenda. He stated that the Board of Finance meeting listed for April 24, 2008 has been canceled.

18. Adjournment

MOTION: by Dean, seconded by Sellers to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 p.m.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Klaskin, Ruggiero, Sellers

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

Submitted for approval at the 05/06/08 Board of Education Meeting
dmd