



Central Bucks School District Middle School Summer Reading List – 2014

The purpose of summer reading is to encourage in each student a lifelong love of reading. By choosing books students will enjoy and by reinforcing and inviting students to cogitate on their reading, we hope to engage and entertain as well as communicate the joys of participating in a lively, interactive community of fellow readers.

Grade 7:

Students entering seventh grade must read at least two books over the summer. One of the books must be selected from the seventh grade list below. The other book should be selected based on personal interest, parent recommendation, and reading ability. It need not be from the grade level book list.

Title	Author	Description
Boy	Roald Dahl	In this autobiography, Roald Dahl shares his childhood memories and the events in his life that led him to the writing of several modern classics, including <i>James and the Giant Peach</i> and <i>Charlie and the Chocolate Factory</i> .
The King of Shadows*	Susan Cooper	Nat Field's dream is to perform as Puck in Shakespeare's <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> . His acting skills are put to the test when he finds himself transported back in time to Shakespearean England.
Hope Was Here	Joan Bauer	When sixteen-year-old Hope and the aunt who has raised her move from Brooklyn to Mulhoney, Wisconsin, to work as a waitress and cook in the Welcome Stairways diner, they become involved with the diner owner's political campaign to oust the town's corrupt mayor.
Stargirl	Jerry Spinelli	Stargirl, a teen who animates quiet Mica High with her colorful personality, suddenly finds herself shunned for her refusal to conform.
The Maze	Will Hobbs	Rick, a fourteen-year-old foster child, escapes from a juvenile detention facility near Las Vegas and travels to Canyonlands National Park in Utah where he meets a bird biologist working on a project to reintroduce condors to the wild.
Transall Saga	Gary Paulsen	A mysterious beam of light transports Mark into another time and perhaps another planet. He must make a new life for himself as he searches for a pathway home.
Flipped	Wendelin Van Draanen	In alternating chapters, two teenagers describe how their feelings about themselves, each other, and their families have changed over the years.
If a Tree Falls at Lunch Period	Gennifer Choldenko	Kirsten and Walk, seventh-graders at an elite private school, describe how race, wealth, weight, and other issues shape their relationships as they and other misfits stand up to a mean but influential classmate.
Savvy	Ingrid Law	This story recounts the adventures of Mibs Beaumont, whose thirteenth birthday has revealed her "savvy"--a magical power unique to each member of her family--just as her father is injured in a terrible accident.

*indicates a challenging text



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Grade 8:

Students entering eighth grade must read at least two books over the summer. One of the books must be chosen from the eighth grade list below. The other book should be selected based on personal interest, parent recommendation, and reading ability. It need not be from the grade level book list.

Title	Author	Description
Found	Margaret Peterson Haddix	When thirteen-year-olds Jonah and Chip, who are both adopted, learn they were discovered on a plane that appeared out of nowhere, full of babies with no adults on board, they realize that they have uncovered a mystery involving time travel and two opposing forces, each trying to repair the fabric of time.
Peeled	Joan Bauer	In an upstate New York farming community, high school reporter Hildy Biddle investigates a series of strange occurrences at a house rumored to be haunted.
The House of the Scorpion*	Nancy Farmer	In a future where humans despise clones, Matt enjoys special status as the young clone of El Patrón, the 142-year-old leader of a corrupt drug empire nestled between Mexico and the United States.
Deathwatch	Robb White	An exciting novel of suspense, based on a fight to the finish between an honest and courageous young man and a cynical business tycoon who believes that anything can be had for a price.
Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie	Jordan Sonnenblick	Steven Alper is a typical eighth-grader--smarter than some, a better drummer than most, but with the usual girl problems and family trials. Then, on October 7, his five-year-old brother, Jeffrey, falls, has a nosebleed that doesn't stop, and is diagnosed with leukemia.
The Juvie Three	Gordon Korman	Gecko, Terence, and Ajay are serving time in juvenile detention centers until they get a second chance. Douglas Healy, a former juvenile delinquent himself, takes them into his halfway house, hoping to make a difference in their lives. One night there is a scuffle, and Healy is accidentally knocked unconscious. When he awakes in the hospital, he has no memory of them or of the halfway house. Afraid of being sent back to Juvie, the guys hatch a crazy scheme to continue on as if the group leader never left. But if the boys are found out, their second chance will be their last.
Mockingbird	Kathryn Erskine	Ten-year-old Caitlin, who has Asperger's Syndrome, struggles to understand emotions, show empathy, and make friends at school, while at home she seeks closure to a family tragedy by working on a project with her father.





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Grade 9:

Students entering ninth grade must read at least two books over the summer. One of the books must be chosen from the ninth grade list below. The other book should be selected based on personal interest, parent recommendation, and reading ability. It need not be from the grade level book list.

Title	Author	Description
The Martian Chronicles*	Ray Bradbury	Mars is a place where a fine dust settles on the great cities of a silent, destroyed civilization. The wonders begin as men from Earth attempt to colonize the red planet.
The Good Earth*	Pearl Buck	The story of a Chinese peasant and his passionate, dogged accumulation of land during famine, drought, and revolution.
Tears of a Tiger	Sharon Draper	The death of high school basketball star Rob Washington in an automobile accident affects the lives of his close friend Andy, who was driving the car, and many others in the school.
This World We Live In	Susan Pfeffer	Miranda Evans, her two brothers, and their mother struggle for survival a year after the moon's collision with a meteor altered the climate forever. While things become more difficult with the arrival of six more people, including her father and stepmother, a new disaster threatens to derail the new lives they have been trying to build.
Chinese Cinderella	Adeline Mah	The author tells the story of her painful childhood in China where she lived until the age of fourteen with her father, stepmother, and siblings, all of whom considered her bad luck because her mother died shortly after giving birth to her.
The Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet	Jamie Ford	An exceptionally well-written historical fiction novel that is set in the ethnic neighborhoods of Seattle and Japanese American internment camps during World War II. Amid the chaos of blackouts, curfews, and FBI raids, Henry Lee - a Chinese-American - and Keiko Okabe - a young Japanese American student - forge a bond of friendship and innocent love. This unforgettable duo teaches us of the power of forgiveness and the human heart.
The Tragedy Paper	Elizabeth Laban	The story of Tim Macbeth, a seventeen-year-old albino and a recent transfer to the prestigious Irving School, where the motto is "Enter here to be and find a friend." A friend is the last thing Tim expects or wants—he just hopes to get through his senior year unnoticed. Yet, despite his efforts to blend into the background, he finds himself falling for the quintessential "It" girl, Vanessa Sheller, girlfriend of Irving's most popular boy. To Tim's surprise, Vanessa is into him, too, but she can kiss her social status goodbye if anyone ever finds out. Tim and Vanessa begin a clandestine romance, but looming over them is the Tragedy Paper, Irving's version of a senior year thesis, assigned by the school's least forgiving teacher. Jumping between viewpoints of the love-struck Tim and Duncan, a current senior about to uncover the truth of Tim and Vanessa, The Tragedy Paper is a compelling tale of forbidden love and the lengths people will go to keep their secrets.

*indicates a challenging text