

Summer Reading Assignment for MCHS Class of 2020

Dear Rising Freshmen:

Congratulations on being (almost) finished with middle school. We are looking forward to meeting you in the fall! As part of our endeavor to make sure all freshmen are ready for a successful high school experience, we require all incoming 9th graders to complete a summer reading assignment. The ninth grade English team has carefully selected titles that will be of high interest for your summer reading. Many of the themes also connect with ideas and issues you might confront in high school—or in life. We recommend that you get your book early and read at a leisurely pace instead of cramming in all the work right before the start of school. These should be books you enjoy, so savor them!

Please make sure you finish all reading and assignments prior to the start of school. Whether you have first- or second-semester English, your assignment is still due the day before school starts. You will use the link below to submit your work. This form and link will also be posted on the MCHS website this summer. Assignment link: <http://goo.gl/forms/VFuvJ13OHsfqU4K02>

Please make sure you have ALL of the following required work completed BEFORE beginning the Google form:

1. You'll need to collect FIVE favorite or significant quotes as you read. Then, answer each of the following using your best writing:

a. How does each quote impact the novel as a whole?

b. How does each quote connect to your life?

2. Then, write a two-paragraph personal response and/or critique of the novel explaining how this book impacts you personally and why it may/may not be a suitable book for rising freshmen.

All Students: Every ninth grader must select ONE book from *either* of the lists on this letter, including the following *contemporary literature* titles.

The Martian – Andy Weir

Shoe Dog: A Memoir by the Creator of Nike – Phil Knight

Foul Trouble – John Feinstein

Code Name Verity – Elizabeth Wein

Uglies – Scott Westerfeld

Miracles from Heaven: A Little Girl and Her Amazing Story of Healing – Christy Beam

Looking for Alaska – John Green

Daughter of Smoke and Bone – Laini Taylor

13 Reasons Why – Jay Asher

Ender's Game – Orson Scott Card

Legend – Marie Lu

Honors Students: *In addition* to one of the titles from above, honors students must select a SECOND title from this list of *classic literature* titles (many are available for free online):

Fahrenheit 451 – Ray Bradbury

To Kill a Mockingbird – Harper Lee

A Prayer for Owen Meany – John Irving

Call of the Wild – Jack London

Lord of the Flies – William Golding

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings – Maya Angelou

A Tree Grows in Brooklyn – Betty Smith

Red Badge of Courage – Stephen Crane

Thank you and see you in the fall!

The MCHS Freshmen English Team