June 1, 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

The Carl H. Kumpf Middle School language arts teachers, supervisor, and I are eager to present the summer reading lists to the sixth, seventh, and eighth-grade students for the 2020-2021 school year. Each student, including those slated for an honors-level course, will be asked to read the “required” book for his/her grade level and one more book from the “suggested” list. Students in resource-level language arts classes are expected to read the one “required” book over the summer; they do not need to read any “suggested” books. You will notice that the attached list contains titles for all students but with additional ones as well. If a resource student chooses to go beyond the requirement to read an additional book, he/she may want to select one from this “additional” list as these books are on a slightly lower reading level. All students are obviously encouraged to read beyond the previously described requirements. Please be mindful of helping your child choose a book that is commensurate with his/her reading ability. Also, please consult teachers, local librarians, and book websites as you aid your child in choosing books to gain information about reading levels and other information about various titles.

In order to complete the summer reading requirement, students (not including those in resource classes) should be prepared to take a reading comprehension test based on the required novel once they return to school. Also, within the first two weeks of school, your child (including those in resource classes) will complete a writing assignment based on the other book(s) that he/she read from the suggested list (for resource students, this assignment will be focused around the one required book). In order to best prepare for this assignment, we encourage your child to keep a set of notes and/or an outline as he/she reads his/her suggested book(s). These notes and/or this outline may be used in class as your child crafts his/her individual writing assignment.

Both the test and the writing assignment will be administered in your child’s language arts class during the first two weeks of school. Specific dates for these assessments will be provided by your child’s teacher when he/she returns to school. For your convenience, the summer reading lists are posted on the CHK website and they have been sent to the Clark Public Library and the Barnes & Noble store in Clark. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me by phone at 732-574-9600 ext. 3392 or via e-mail at egrande@clarkschools.org.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer! Happy Reading!

Yours sincerely,

Edward Grande
6th Grade Summer Reading

Required Title:
*Peak* by Roland Smith

Suggested Titles:
*Schooled* by Gordon Korman
*Loser* by Jerry Spinelli
*Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* by J.K. Rowling
*All's Faire in Middle School* by Victoria Jamieson
*Middle School, The Worst Years of My Life* by James Patterson
*11 Before 12* by Lisa Greenwald
*Are You There God? It's Me Margaret* by Judy Blume
*New Kid* by Jerry Craft
*Project Middle School: Hope* by Alyssa Milano with Debbie Rigaud

Additional Titles:
*Scrappers Series* by Dean Hughes:
  - *Play Ball*
  - *Homerun Heroes*
  - *Grand Slam*
  - *Team Player*
*Shortstop From Tokyo* by Matt Christopher
*The Hit-Away Kid* by Matt Christopher
*The Home Run Kid Races On* by Matt Christopher
*Hot Shot* by Matt Christopher
*Soccer Hero* by Matt Christopher
*Eggs* by Jerry Spinelli
*Blue Ribbon Blues* by Jerry Spinelli
*Maniac Magee* by Jerry Spinelli
*Milkweed* by Jerry Spinelli
*The Chalk Box Kid* by Clyde Robert Bulla
*Tornado* by Betsy Byars
*Shoeshine Girl* by Betsy Byars
Freckle Juice by Judy Blume
*Otherwise Known As Sheila the Great* by Judy Blume
*Double Fudge* by Judy Blume
*It's Not the End of the World* by Judy Blume
*The Castle In The Attic* by Elizabeth Winthrop
*Mitch and Amy* by Beverly Cleary
*Otis Spofford* by Beverly Cleary
*Henry Huggins* by Beverly Cleary
*Beezus and Ramona* by Beverly Cleary
*Two Dog Biscuits* by Beverly Cleary
*The Dollhouse Murders* by Betty Ren Wright
*The Homework Machine* by Dan Gutman
6th Grade Summer Reading

Additional Titles (Continued):

*The Million Dollar Putt* by Dan Gutman
*I Am the Ice Worm* by MaryAnn Easley
*No Talking* by Andrew Clements
*Kit's Wilderness* by David Almond
*The Winter Room* by Gary Paulsen
*The Pepins and Their Problems* by Polly Horvath
7th Grade Summer Reading

Required Title:
*Peak* by Roland Smith

Suggested Titles:
- *Report to the Principal's Office* by Jerry Spinelli
- *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain
- *Absolutely Normal Chaos* by Sharon Creech
- *The Move Make the Man* by Bruce Brooks
- *The Samurai's Tale* by Erik Haugaard
- *What Would Joey Do?* by Jack Gantos
- *Locomotion* by Jacqueline Woodson
- *Dogsong* by Gary Paulsen
- *Well Witched* by Frances Hardinge
- *A Corner of the Universe* by Ann M. Martin
- *Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pies* by Jordan Sonnenblick
- *The Misfits* by James Howe
- *Divergent* by Veronica Roth
- *Life As We Knew It* by Susan Beth Pfeffer
- *Smiles to Go* by Jerry Spinelli
- *The Compound* by S.A. Bodeen
- *Air Raid-Pearl Harbor (NF)* by Theodore Taylor
- *Code Talker: A Novel About the Navajo Marines of World War II (NF)* by Joseph Bruchac
- *An American Plague: The True and Terrifying Story of the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793 (NF)* by Jim Murphy
- *Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace... One School at a Time (NF)* by Greg Mortenson

Additional Titles:
- *Scrappers Series* by Dean Hughes:
  - *Play Ball*
  - *Homerun Heroes*
  - *Grand Slam*
  - *Team Player*
- *Shortstop From Tokyo* by Matt Christopher
- *The Hit-Away Kid* by Matt Christopher
- *The Home Run Kid Races On* by Matt Christopher
- *Hot Shot* by Matt Christopher
- *Soccer Hero* by Matt Christopher
- *Eggs* by Jerry Spinelli
- *Blue Ribbon Blues* by Jerry Spinelli
- *Maniac Magee* by Jerry Spinelli
- *Milkweed* by Jerry Spinelli
- *The Chalk Box Kid* by Clyde Robert Bulla
- *Tornado* by Betsy Byars
- *Shoeshine Girl* by Betsy Byars
7th Grade Summer Reading

Additional Titles (Continued):

Freckle Juice by Judy Blume
Otherwise Known As Sheila the Great by Judy Blume
Double Fudge by Judy Blume
It's Not the End of the World by Judy Blume
The Castle In The Attic by Elizabeth Winthrop
Mitch and Amy by Beverly Cleary
Otis Spofford by Beverly Cleary
Henry Huggins by Beverly Cleary
Beezus and Ramona by Beverly Cleary
Two Dog Biscuits by Beverly Cleary
The Dollhouse Murders by Betty Ren Wright
The Homework Machine by Dan Gutman
The Million Dollar Putt by Dan Gutman
I Am the Ice Worm by MaryAnn Easley
Kit's Wilderness by David Almond
The Wednesday Wars by Gary Schmidt
The Winter Room by Gary Paulsen
The Pepins and Their Problems by Polly Horvath
8th Grade Summer Reading

Required Title:
Peak by Roland Smith

Suggested Titles:
Ironman by Chris Crutcher
Sunrise Over Fallujah by Walter Dean Myers
Becoming Billie Holiday by Carole Boston Weatherford
Catching Fire by Suzanne Collins
Mockingjay by Suzanne Collins
The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams
Milkweed by Jerry Spinelli
Zel by Donna Jo Napoli
Slam! by Walter Dean Myers
Uglies by Scott Westerfield
A Monster Calls by Patrick Ness
The Eyeball Collector by F.E. Higgins
Addie on the Inside by James Howe
Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants by Ann Brashares
Chesire Cheese Cat by Carmen Agra Deedy and Randall Wright
Revolver by Marcus Sedgwick
Heat by Mike Lupica
Amy and Roger’s Epic Detour by Morgan Matson
Mob Princess: Count Your Blessings by Todd Strasser
The One-O’Clock Chop by Ralph Fletcher
Hate List by Jennifer Brown
Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler’s Shadow (NF) by Susan Campbell Bartoletti
Now Is Your Time! The African-American Struggle for Freedom (NF) by Walter Dean Myers
Children of War: Voices of Iraqi Refugees (NF) by Deborah Ellis
The Yankee Years (NF) by Joe Torre and Tom Verducci

Additional Titles:
Scrappers Series by Dean Hughes:
   Play Ball
   Homerun Heroes
   Grand Slam
   Team Player
Shortstop From Tokyo by Matt Christopher
The Hit-Away Kid by Matt Christopher
The Home Run Kid Races On by Matt Christopher
Hot Shot by Matt Christopher
Soccer Hero by Matt Christopher
Eggs by Jerry Spinelli
Blue Ribbon Blues by Jerry Spinelli
8th Grade Summer Reading

Additional Titles (Continued):

Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli
Milkweed by Jerry Spinelli
The Chalk Box Kid by Clyde Robert Bulla
Tornado by Betsy Byars
Shoeshine Girl by Betsy Byars
Freckle Juice by Judy Blume
Otherwise Known As Sheila the Great by Judy Blume
Double Fudge by Judy Blume
It’s Not the End of the World by Judy Blume
The Castle In The Attic by Elizabeth Winthrop
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