

June 2020

Dear incoming 8th graders,

In order to prepare for 8th grade, we ask that you read the following books. Both texts explore the way our country's history impacts the present moment. In the fall, we will look closely at how slavery impacted our country's founding. This will lead us to an exploration of themes such as division, equality, freedom, justice, and activism.

The books are:

- 1) Just Mercy (Adapted for Young Adults): A True Story of the Fight for Justice by Bryan Stevenson. **ISBN-10:** 0525580034. **ISBN-13:** 978-0525580034.

https://www.booksaremagic.net/?q=h.tvviewer&using_sb=status&qsb=keyword&qse=3bfSPEKfdTdMjZ-KTDt1zw

- 2) Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You: A Remix of the National Book Award-winning Stamped from the Beginning by Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi. **ISBN-10:** 0316453692. **ISBN-13:** 978-0316453691.

https://www.booksaremagic.net/?q=h.tvviewer&using_sb=status&qsb=keyword&qse=-lOcj b5TGyLri79lhjZyw

While reading, please annotate at least 10-15 parts that stand out to you. Below are some questions to help guide your annotations. You do NOT need to answer all of them. Please use the attached graphic organizers to record your annotations. You may copy and paste these graphic organizers so that you can type on them. You may also print them and handwrite. In September, we will share directions for how to upload your work to Google Classroom.

- What surprises you?
- What questions do you have?
- What do you want to know more about?
- Which individuals stand out to you?
- Both books address systemic racism. What do you think this means?
- Both books make connections between past and present. What do you notice?
- Both books talk about people who are making change. What kind of change are they making? How are they making it? Why are they pursuing change? What obstacles do they encounter?

Have a great summer!

8th Grade Humanities Teachers

