Sophomores are given a variety of choices of books to read over the summer. Rather than requiring a certain book to read, it is our hope that students will select books that meet their individual interests. This program is intended to increase students’ enjoyment of reading and to develop a habit of reading that takes students far beyond the English classroom.

To begin this journey, students are to choose ONE book from either of the lists below, and the SECOND is to be any other book selected by the individual student, which could be another title from the lists below. As some of the choices contain mature themes, we are asking that you discuss the selections with your student. Descriptions and reviews of each book are linked through the titles below. PLEASE DO YOUR RESEARCH BEFORE SELECTING A BOOK TO ENSURE IT IS A GOOD FIT FOR YOUR INTEREST, READING ABILITY AND/OR WORLD VIEW.

Requirements:
Within the first couple weeks of the school year, we will be discussing and writing about what you found most fascinating about these texts. Aside from reading the books, there is no other summer assignment. We look forward to beginning the school year with students who have read and enjoyed two good books!

Where do I get the books?

- New /Used books can be purchased through amazon.com, barnesandnoble.com, and half.com.
- E-books can be purchased through many online stores including the Amazon Bookstore or through iTunes via the iBooks app.
- Troy Public Library: Please note that while you may borrow the book from the library, the supply is limited, and, more importantly, owning the books in either paperback or e-reader form will allow necessary access to the texts during the first few weeks of school.

**FICTION**

*On the Come Up* by Angie Thomas
*It’s Kind of a Funny Story* by Ned Vizzini
*Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe* by Benjamin Alire Sáenz
*This is Our Story* by Ashley Elston
*The Boy at the Top of the Mountain* by John Boyne
*Age of Myth* by Michael J. Sullivan
  - (if you have read this first book in this series, you may choose the next: *Age of Swords*)
*The Daughter of Smoke & Bone* by Laini Taylor
  - (if you have read this first book in this series, you may choose the next: *Days of Blood & Starlight* or *Dreams of Gods & Monsters*)
*Kindred* by Octavia Butler
*The Great Alone* by Kristin Hannah
*Stolen: A Letter to my Captor* by Lucy Christopher
*Written in the Stars* by Aisha Saeed
  - (If you read this as a lit circle choice in 9th grade, you might consider choosing *Sold* by Patricia McCormick which has similar mature themes.)
*Dear Martin* by Nic Stone
FICTION, continued

Twisted by Laurie Halse Anderson
Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds
Taken by Erin Bowman
The Dangerous Art of Blending In by Angelo Surmelis
Caged Warrior by Alan Sitomer
Copper Sun by Susan Draper
A Separate Peace by John Knowles
The Martian by Andy Weir
A List of Cages by Robin Roe
Tattooist of Auschwitz by Heather Norris
Aftermath by Kelley Armstrong
Internment by Samira Ahmed
Dry by Neal Shusterman
A Very Large Expanse of Sea by Tahereh Mafi
The Hobbit by J.R. Tolkien
American Street by Ibi Zoboi
Red Rising by Pierce Brown

- (If you have read the first book in this series, you may choose the next: Golden Son or Morning Star)

To All the Boys I've Loved Before by Jenny Han
One of Us Is Lying by Karen McManus

NON-FICTION

Educated by Tara Westover
A Stolen Life by Jaycee Dugard
Concussion by Jeanne Marie Laskas
American Sniper by Chris Kyle, Scott McEwen, Jim DeFelice
The Other Wes Moore by Wes Moore
Becoming by Michelle Obama
Bossypants by Tina Fey
When Breath Becomes Air by Paul Kalanithi
The Color of Water by James McBride
Shout by Laurie Halse Anderson
American Chica by Marie Arana