


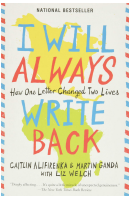
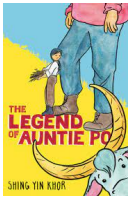

Paxon Hollow Middle School

Summer Reading Choice List 2022

All rising 6th, 7th, and 8th graders: Choose and read two books from the list below and complete a reading response activity described at the end of the list.

	<p><i>Class Act</i> by Jerry Craft</p>	<p>Eighth-grader Drew Ellis is not afforded the same opportunities that his privileged classmates at the Riverdale Academy Day School take for granted, not matter how hard he works. Their differences begin to get in the way of Drew's friendships with his classmates. As the pressures mount, will Drew find a way to bridge the divide so he and his friends can truly accept each other? And most important, will he finally be able to accept himself?</p>
	<p><i>Maybe He Just Likes You</i> by Barbara Dee</p>	<p>When boys in her class start touching seventh-grader Mila and making her feel uncomfortable, she does not want to tell her friends or mother until she reaches her breaking point.</p>
	<p><i>Starfish</i> by Lisa Fipps</p>	<p>Bullied and shamed her whole life for being overweight, twelve-year-old Ellie finally gains the confidence to stand up for herself, with the help of some wonderful new allies.</p>
	<p><i>Ground Zero</i> by Alan Gratz</p>	<p>Brandon is visiting his dad on the 107th floor of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001 when the attack comes; Reshmina is a girl in Afghanistan who has grown up in the aftermath of that attack but dreams of peace, becoming a teacher and escaping her village and the narrow role that the Taliban believes is appropriate for women. Both are struggling to survive, both changed forever by the events of 9/11.</p>
	<p><i>Wink: Surviving Middle School with One Eye Open</i> by Rob Harrell</p>	<p>After being diagnosed with a rare eye cancer, twelve-year-old Ross discovers how music, art, and true friends can help him survive both treatment and middle school. This book is a <u>humorous</u> look at the real events from the author's childhood.</p>
	<p><i>Scary Stories for Young Foxes</i> by Christian McKay Heidicker</p>	<p>The haunted season has arrived in the Antler Wood. No fox kit is safe. When Mia and Uly are separated from their litters, they discover a dangerous world full of monsters. In order to find a den to call home, they must venture through field and forest, facing unspeakable things that dwell in the darkness: a zombie who hungers for their flesh, a witch who tries to steal their skins, a ghost who hunts them through the snow . . . and other things too scary to mention.</p>
	<p><i>BenBee and the Teacher Griefer</i> by K. A. Holt</p>	<p>Ms. J allows her summer school students one minute of playing a video game for every minute they spend reading. Soon, her teaching methods are questioned and four summer school classmates must band together to save their teacher and their academic futures.</p>

	<p><i>Murder on the Baltimore Express:</i> <i>The Plot to Keep Abraham Lincoln from Becoming President</i> by Suzanne Jurmain</p>	<p>Newly elected President Abraham Lincoln set out on a cross-country railroad trip that would take him to his inauguration in Washington, D.C. At the same time, a band of fanatic southern Confederate sympathizers decided to stop Lincoln from taking office by assassinating him in Baltimore. This book tells the story of Lincoln's great escape.</p>
	<p><i>Linked</i> by Gordon Korman</p>	<p>Link, Michael, and Dana live in a quiet town, but it's woken up very quickly when someone sneaks into school and vandalizes it with a swastika. As more swastikas begin to appear, some students decide to fight back and start a project to bring people together instead of dividing them further. The closer Link, Michael, and Dana get to the truth, the more there is to face--not just the crimes of the present, but the crimes of the past.</p>
	<p><i>Red, White, and Whole</i> by Rajani LaRocca</p>	<p>Reha feels torn between two worlds: school, where she's the only Indian American student, and home, with her family's traditions and holidays. But Reha's parents don't understand why she's conflicted--they only notice when Reha doesn't meet their strict expectations. Reha feels disconnected from her mother, or Amma, but soon finds out she is sick. Really sick. Reha is determined to make her Amma well again. She'll be the perfect daughter, if it means saving her Amma's life.</p>
	<p><i>Too Bright to See</i> by Kyle Lukoff</p>	<p>In the summer before middle school, Bug must contend with best friend Moira suddenly caring about clothes, makeup, and boys. None of this is all that appealing to Bug, who doesn't particularly want to spend more time trying to understand how to be a girl. Besides, there's something more important to worry about: a ghost is haunting Bug's eerie old house in rural Vermont. As Bug begins to untangle the mystery of who this ghost is and what they're trying to say, an altogether different truth about Bug comes to light.</p>
	<p><i>Tracking Pythons:</i> <i>The Quest to Track and Invasive Predator and Save an Ecosystem</i> by Kate Messner</p>	<p>Burmese pythons are native to Southeast Asia, so when one showed up dead along the side of a Florida highway in 1979, scientists wondered where it came from. No one knew the snakes had launched a full-scale invasion. Pet pythons that escaped or were released by their owners started breeding in the wild, and these enormous predators began eating every animal in their path.</p>
	<p><i>Bloom</i> by Kenneth Oppel</p>	<p>The invasion begins with rain that carries seeds--seeds that sprout overnight, everywhere. These new plants take over crop fields, twine up houses, and burrow below streets. They bloom--and release toxic pollens and form pods that swallow animals and people. They're everywhere and unstoppable. Or are they? Three kids on a remote island seem immune to the toxic plants. What's their secret? Can they somehow be the key to beating back this invasion?</p>
	<p><i>Wild River</i> by Rodman Philbrick</p>	<p>When a dam fails and rushing waters sweep away their adult supervisors, five middle schoolers on a white-water rafting adventure are left alone with few supplies and the opportunity to forge powerful bonds as well as develop dangerous disagreements.</p>
	<p><i>Before Ever After</i> by Jacqueline Woodson</p>	<p>ZJ's friends Ollie, Darry and Daniel help him cope when his father, a beloved professional football player, suffers severe headaches and memory loss that spell the end of his career.</p>

	<i>Ghost</i> by Jason Reynolds	Ghost, a naturally talented runner and troublemaker, is recruited for an elite middle school track team. He must stay on track, literally and figuratively, to reach his full potential.
	<i>I Will Always Write Back</i> By Caitlin Alifirenka & Martin Ganda	Caitlin, from Pennsylvania, chose Martin, from Zimbabwe, as her pen pal when she was 12. This memoir, written in alternating chapters by both pen pals, recounts how they became best friends--and better people--through their long-distance letter exchanges.
	<i>Legend of Auntie Po</i> By Shing Yin Khor	Aware of the racial tumult in the years after the passage of the Chinese Exclusion Act, Mei tries to remain blissfully focused on her job, her close friendship with the camp foreman's daughter, and telling stories about Paul Bunyan--reinvented as Po Pan Yin (Auntie Po), an elderly Chinese matriarch.
	<i>The Thief</i> By Megan Whalen Turner	Gen flaunts his ingenuity as a thief and relishes the adventure which takes him to a remote temple of the gods where he will attempt to steal a precious stone.

Reading Response Choices:

Please choose one activity for one book you read this summer.

1. Write a 1-2 page response. Select an important event in the book. Describe why it was a turning point in the character's life. What was it that the character decided or learned to do? Use details from the book to support your opinion. See associated rubric. (#1)
2. Write a 1-2 page response. Identify the narrator. How does the author's choice of narrator (or choice of multiple narrators) influence the story that the reader experiences? How might the story be different if told from another point of view? Use details from the text to support your answer. See associated rubric. (#2)
3. Create a test for the novel. Your test must have 10 questions. It should include a combination of multiple choice questions, short written response questions, and one essay question. You must also provide the answers. See associated rubric. (#3)
4. Create a 30 second video summarizing the novel. Consider this a video trailer for the novel that would make others want to read it. It should provide only the most important information. See associated rubric. (#4)
5. Create a soundtrack (song list) for the novel (minimum 8 songs). Each song should have a 3-5 complete sentence explanation on how the song fits to the book. See associated rubric. (#5)
6. Compare and contrast the main character to someone in our society. Choose 2 of the following:
 - Write a 1-2 page response.
 - Create a venn diagram. Use words, pictures, and photos for both individuals.
 - Make a video. Write a script and film an interview between yourself, the main character, and the person you've selected from society.
 See associated rubric. (#6)

Extension:

The first 15 books on the list are part of the Pennsylvania Young Reader's Choice Award Program. This program allows students across the Commonwealth to vote for Pennsylvania's favorite books each year. Any student interested in participating in this program must commit to reading at least 3 books from the list by the time we vote in January 2023. Any books read from the list over the summer count toward this goal. Participants will have a chance to meet with each other when we return in the fall and throughout the year to discuss the books they have read for the program. Additionally, students will have the opportunity to suggest books of their choosing to be part of the next year's Pennsylvania Young Reader's Choice reading list.

Reading Olympics

Reading Olympics is a year-long competition for students in grades 5-12. As a team, students read 40 books throughout the year with a culminating game-show style event bringing together teams from across the county. If you'd like to get a head start, the link to the list will be posted on the Paxton Library website as soon as it becomes available.