

## OLENTANGY SCHOOLS LITERATURE SELECTION REVIEW FORM

### LOCATION

Building(s): OHMS

Classes/Grade Level(s): 8th, ELA

### ABOUT THE BOOK

Selection Title: Maze Runner

Author: James Dashner

Genre: Dystopian/ ScienceFiction

Lexile Reading Level: 770L

Total number of pages: 375 pages

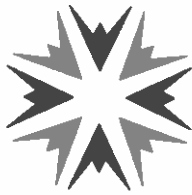
Preapproved literature review:

[https://resources.finalseite.net/images/v1642019560/olentangyk12ohus/donv/3bebcroysxt53aj/LiteratureSelectionReview\\_TheMazeRunner.pdf](https://resources.finalseite.net/images/v1642019560/olentangyk12ohus/donv/3bebcroysxt53aj/LiteratureSelectionReview_TheMazeRunner.pdf)

<p><b>Book Summary (abbreviated, bulleted list)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- A teen wakes up in a clearing in the center of a gigantic maze with no memory of his past, finding himself a resident in a community of boys who have built a village in the glade and who sends two of its strongest and fittest runners into the maze every morning to find a way out.</li></ul>	<p><b>Potentially Objectionable Content (list all categories and at least one example, referenced with a page or chapter number)</b></p> <p><u>Language:</u> Many made-up slang words, such as "klunk" and "slinthead"; the word "shuck" Ex on page 19. Some usage of the words "butt," "crappy," and "sucks."example on page65.</p> <p><u>Violence:</u> Many instances of violence as the plot surrounds characters who are in mortal danger, including attacks on monsters with guns, knives on monsters. Example on page 73</p> <p><u>Trauma-</u> Many scenes depict characters in fear for their life. Example: one boy thinks he is going insane. p35</p>
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**Book Reviews (1-2 links):**

Common Sense Media- Maze Runner



## ABOUT THE CLASS

**Rationale for the Literature Selection (in addition to standards):** *Maze Runner* will be a choice in literature circles in our 8th grade dystopian unit. Dystopian literature is used to present a vision of the future that challenges readers to reflect on the current social and political environments in which they live. *Maze Runner* is a high quality choice because it pulls readers in with the mysterious characters and holds their attention because of the twist on the scifi dystopian society with edge-of-your-seat storylines. Many different themes are developed throughout the novel allowing for all students to make connections, and have great conversations. For example, the idea that the protagonist is most successful when working with others relates to topics such as teamwork, working with challenging people, and perseverance. These are qualities that middle school students can emulate as a result of their engagement with *Maze Runner*.

**The Ohio Department of Education ELA Standards (list priority standards *only and abbreviations*)** [Link to Ohio's ELA Standards](#)



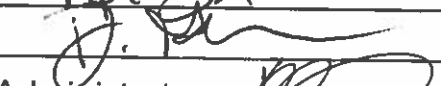

- 1.) SL.8.1 Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions
- 2.) RL.8.1 Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis
- 3.) RL.8.2 Analyze literary text development, including the development of theme and its relationship to other elements
- 4.) RL.8.3 Analyze how dialogue propels the action
- 5.) RL.8.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases and their impact
- 6.) RL.8.6 Analyze how perspective creates effects such as suspense or humor.

## ALTERNATIVE TEXTS

What alternative texts would allow students to meet the same objectives?

1. *Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins
2. *Scythe* by Neil Shusterman
3. *Divergent* by Veronica Roth

**SIGNATURES** (embedded jpegs of authentic signatures are fine OR download/print form and obtain traditional signatures)

Teacher:  Date: 05/17/22  
Department Chair:  Date: 5/17/22  
Building Principal:  Date: 5/11/22  
District Curriculum Administrator:  Date: 9/2/22