

WHS Book Rationale

Title: *Catcher in the Rye*

Author: Jerome David Salinger

- **Intended Audience**
 - English 9 Honors and English 9

- **Brief summary and educational significance**
 - Holden Caulfield, kicked out of his latest prep school, struggles with the growing up process and his place in the corrupt, “phony” adult world.
 - Coming of age story. Inspired own genre (update).

- **Purpose of teaching the work and how it will be used**
 - Exploring theme, alienation, rebellion, symbolism, heroes and antiheroes, connection to poetry, stream of consciousness writing, writing style, colloquial speech, point of view, dealing with loss, search for truth in humanity, author study.

- **Potential problems**
 - Alcohol abuse, language, depression and mental instability of main character, prostitution, teenage sex.

- **Addressing potential problems**
 - Allow opportunities to discuss the loss or preservation of innocence.
 - Allow opportunities to discuss the maturation process and what helps and hinders the process.