

2023-2024 English 7 Summer Reading

Teachers: Corinna Vlahoyiannis & Ann McKenzie

1. All rising English 7 students are required to read *Peak* by Roland Smith
2. All rising English 7 students are required to read **one** novel from the list of pre-selected novels below.

| <b>Title/Author</b>  | <b>Summary (from Goodreads.com)</b>  |
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| <i>Amina's Voice</i> by Hena Khan  | Amina has never been comfortable in the spotlight. She is happy just hanging out with her best friend, Soojin. Except now that she's in middle school everything feels different. Soojin is suddenly hanging out with Emily, one of the "cool" girls in the class, and even talking about changing her name to something more "American." Does Amina need to start changing too? Or hiding who she is to fit in?   |
| <i>Counting by 7s</i> by Holly Goldberg Sloan                                  | Willow Chance is a twelve-year-old genius, obsessed with nature and diagnosing medical conditions, who finds it comforting to count by 7s. It has never been easy for her to connect with anyone other than her adoptive parents, but that hasn't kept her from leading a quietly happy life...until now. Suddenly Willow's world is tragically changed when her parents both die in a car crash, leaving her alone in a baffling world. The triumph of this book is that it is not a tragedy. This extraordinarily odd, but extraordinarily endearing, girl manages to push through her grief. Her journey to find a fascinatingly diverse and fully believable surrogate family is a joy and a revelation to read.   |
| <i>Dust Girl: The American Fairy Trilogy</i> by Sarah Zettel                   | Callie LeRoux is choking on dust. It seeps through the cracks in the hotel that Callie and her mother run in Kansas. It's slowly filling her lungs. Callie's begged her mother to leave their town, like their neighbors have already done, but her mother refuses. She's waiting for Callie's long-gone father to return. Just as the biggest dust storm in history sweeps through the Midwest, Callie discovers her mother's long-kept secret. Callie's not just mixed race — she's half fairy, too. Now, Callie's fairy kin have found where she's been hidden, and they're coming for her. The only person Callie can trust may be Jack, the charming ex-bootlegger she helped break out of jail.  |
| <i>The Alchemist: The Secrets of Immortal Nicholas Flamel</i> by Michael Scott | Nicholas Flamel was born in Paris on 28 September 1330. Nearly seven hundred years later, he is acknowledged as the greatest Alchemist of his day. It is said that he discovered the secret of eternal life. The records show that he died in 1418. But his tomb is empty and Nicholas Flamel lives. The secret of eternal life is hidden within the book he protects - the Book of Abraham the Mage. It's the most powerful book that has ever existed. In the wrong hands, it will destroy the world. And that's exactly what Dr. John Dee plans to do when he steals it. Humankind won't know what's happening until it's too late. And if the prophecy is right, Sophie and Josh Newman are the only ones with the power to save the world as we know it. Sometimes legends are true. And Sophie and Josh Newman |

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|  | are about to find themselves in the middle of the greatest legend of all time.  |
| <i>Theodore Boone:<br/>Kid Lawyer</i> by<br>John Grisham | In the small city of Strattenburg, there are many lawyers, and though he's only thirteen years old, Theo Boone thinks he's one of them. Theo knows every judge, policeman, court clerk—and a lot about the law. He dreams of being a great trial lawyer, of a life in the courtroom. But Theo finds himself in court much sooner than expected. Because he knows so much— maybe too much—he is suddenly dragged into the middle of a sensational murder trial. A cold -blooded killer is about to go free, and only Theo knows the truth. |