

HMSA Reads

Celebrating school-wide reading among students, teachers, and staff. (Parents encouraged, too!)



Artist Austin Kleon created this image to remind himself to put down the phone and pick up a book.

[It's free to download online.](#)

Next you will find
recommendations by
individual staff members.
See if you love their books
as much as they do.

Reminder: Some staff members even offer incentives with
their books.

Mr. Berumen-- Principal

Incentive: Free treat
and scintillating
conversation to be
remembered
forever.

Periodicals:

- *The Los Angeles Times*
- *Sports Illustrated*

Books:

- The Tipping Point by Malcolm Gladwell
- The Fabric of the Cosmos by Brian Green

Special Selections:

- HMSA Student Handbook
- HMSA Yearbook

Ms. Bui-- Counselor

Incentive: Lunch
with the Ms. Bui

- Mindset: The New Psychology of Success by Carol Dweck (NF)
- Outliers: The Story of Success by Malcolm Gladwell (NF)
- How to Win Friends and Influence People by Dale Carnegie (NF)
- The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton
- The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini (HF)
- Great Expectations by Charles Dickens (CL)

Mrs. Castellanos-- Assistant Principal

Incentive:
Conversation and
Starbucks

Lean In: Women, Work, and the Will to Lead (B/A) by Sheryl Sandberg

College Admissions Trade Secrets: A Top Private College Counselor Reveals the Secrets, Lies, and Tricks of the College Admissions Process (NF) by Andrew Allen

Bossypants (B/A) (H) by Tina Fey

People of the Book: A Novel (M/S) by Geraldine Brooks

Bel Canto (R) (M/S) by Ann Patchett

Run (M/S) by Ann Patchett

The Alchemist (AW) by Paulo Coelho

Firecracker (H) by David Iserson

A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini

The Joy Luck Club by Amy Tan

Daughter of Fortune by Isabel Allende

Ms. Davis–Environmental Science & Biology

Incentive: This is an optional assignment that allows a student to replace their lowest grade on a quiz, test (not midterm or final, lab report or project grade with full credit (if they have their returned grade sheet).

Students must read the book, complete a two page book review and give a review to the class (will need to see me for more details before completing the reading)

Students can complete up to four books a semester.

- The Serengeti Rules: The Quest to Discover How Life Works and Why It Matters by Sean M. Carroll
- Unnatural Selection Choosing Boys over girls and the Consequences of a World Full of Men by Mara Hvistendahl
- Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children From Nature-Deficit Disorder by Richard Louv
- Four Fish: The Future of the Last Wild Food by Paul Greenberg
- Waste and Want: A Social History of Trash by Susan Strasser
- No Impact Man: The Adventures of a Guilty Liberal Who Attempts to Save the Planet, and the Discoveries He Makes About Himself and Our Way of Life in the Process by Colin Beavan
- Walden Warming: Climate Change Comes to Thoreau's Woods by Richard B. Primack
- Gray Mountain by John Grisham
- Science in the Capital Series (any book) by Kim Stanley
- Mars Trilogy Series (any book) by Kim Stanley

Biology and Environmental

Incentive: This is an optional assignment that allows a student to replace their lowest grade on a quiz, test (not midterm or final, lab report or project grade with full credit (if they have their returned grade sheet).

Students must read the book, complete a two page book review and give a review to the class (will need to see me for more details before completing the reading)

Students can complete up to four books a semester.

- Just Mercy: A story of love and Redemption by Bryan Stevenson
- Beyond the Beautiful Forever by Katherine Boo
- Missolua by Jon Krakauer
- Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coates
- Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee by Dee Brown
- The Fire Next Time by James Baldwin
- March by John Lewis (Books 1, 2 or 3)
- Lies My Teacher Told Me by James Loewen
- Gender Ethnicity and the State: Latina and Latino Prison Politics by Juanita Diaz-Cotto
- Instead of Prisons: A handbook for abolitionists by Prison Research Education Action
- The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander

Ms. Davis–Biology

Incentive: This is an optional assignment that allows a student to replace their lowest grade on a quiz, test (not midterm or final, lab report or project grade with full credit (if they have their returned grade sheet).

Students must read the book and p complete a two page book review (will need to see me for more details before completing the reading)

Students can complete up to four books a semester.

Biology Recommendations

- The Demon in the Freezer by Richard Preston
- The Hot Zone by Richard Preston
- Into the Wild by John Krakauer
- The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot
- The Double Helix by Nancy Werlin

Ms. Davis –APES

Incentive: This is an optional assignment that allows a student to replace their lowest grade on a quiz, test (not midterm or final, lab report or project grade with full credit (if they have their returned grade sheet).

Students must read the book and pass the AR test with a 90%, or they can complete a two page book review(will need to see me for more details before completing the reading)

Students can complete up to four books a semester.

APES Recommendations

- The Monkey Wrench Gang by Edward Abbey
- Silent Spring by Rachel Carson
- Ishmael or My Ishmael by Daniel Quinn
- The World Without Us by Weisman
- The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind by William Kamkwamba

Ms. Davis–Anatomy

Incentive: This is an optional assignment that allows a student to replace their lowest grade on a quiz, test (not midterm or final, lab report or project grade with full credit (if they have their returned grade sheet).

Students must read the book and pass the AR test with a 90%, or they can complete a two page book review(will need to see me for more details before completing the reading)

Students can complete up to four books a semester.

Anatomy Recommendations

- Phineas Gagea Gruesome but True Story About Brain Science by John Fleischman
- The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot (unless have taken AP Bio)
- Stiff the Curious Life of Human Cadavers by Mary Roach
- The Female Brain by Louann Brizendine
- Unnatural Selection by Mara Hvistendahl

Mr. Dura-- Health/ Entrepreneurship

- Killing Lincoln by Bill O'Reilly
- Killing Reagan by Bill O'Reilly
- The US Constitution and Declaration of Independence
- The Innovators: How a Group of Hackers, Geniuses, and Geeks Created the Digital Revolution by Walter Issacson
- Steve Jobs by Walter Issacson
- The \$100 Startup: Reinvent the Way You Make a Living, Do What You Love, and Create a New Future by Chris Guillebeau
- The 22 Non-Negotiable Laws of Wellness by G. Anderson
- Stressed Out for Teens by Ben Bernstein
- Mental Health Information for Teens by Lisa Bakewell

Ms. Enger-- American Literature

Incentive: Students must read the book, discuss it with me, and complete a one- pager to earn optional points.

- A Young People's History of the United States, vol. 1 by Howard Zinn (NF, AW)
- A Young People's History of the United States, vol. 2 by Howard Zinn (NF, AW)
- Walden by Henry David Thoreau (NF, B/A, CL)
- Leaves of Grass by Walt Whitman (P, CL)
- DC: The New Frontier by Darwyn Cooke (F, GN, AW)
- The Book Thief by Markus Zusak (F, HF, AW)
- The Martian by Andy Weir (SF, H, T/A, AW)
- The Essential Wooden by John Wooden and Steve Jamison (NF, B/A)
- How to Live: Or A Life of Montaigne in One Question and Twenty Attempts at an Answer by Sarah Bakewell (NF, B/A, AW)
- Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World that Can't Stop Talking by Susan Cain (NF, AW)
- Year of Yes by Shonda Rhimes (NF, B/A)
- A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith (F, CL)
- March, volumes 1-3 by John Lewis (NF, GN, AW)

Mr. Flint--Physics

Incentive: See me with the book in hand BEFORE you start reading. Then, when you are finished, come in after school to answer questions and write a one page paragraph analyzing scientific practices used.

Students can earn quiz replacement, HW pass or log entry pass or even possible lab points.

- Any biography of Galileo
- Any biography of Newton
- Any biography of Tesla
- Any biography of any scientist with approval
- Any good science nonfiction book
- Rocket Boys: A Memoir by Homer Hickam

Ms. Garcia-- Spanish

Incentive: Students must read the book, discuss it with me, and complete a one-page typed paper to earn the points.

- In the time of the Butterflies by Julia Alvarez (Available in Spanish and English)
- San Manuel Bueno, mártir by Miguel de Unamuno
- Lazarillo de Tormes anonymous (Spanish)
- La casa de Bernarda Alba by Federico Garcia Lorca (Spanish Play)
- Como Agua Para Chocolate by Laura Esquivel (Available in Spanish and English)
- El Burlador de Sevilla y Convidado de Piedra by Tirso de Molina (Spanish Play)

Short Stories

- “El Hijo” by Horacio Quiroga
- “Chac Mool” by Carlos Fuentes
- “El Sur” or “La Brújula” by Jorge Luis Borges
- Any chapter from El Quijote by Cervantes

Mr. Highducheck-- U.S. History

Incentive: Students must read the book, pass an AR test, and write a minimum one page report on the book so I can verify that they read it. They can do this once a semester and raise any test grade (except final or midterm) by 2 grades or 20%.

- Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe
- The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne

Ms. Jordan – Spanish II

Incentive: This is an optional assignment that allows a student to replace their lowest grade on a test or a quiz with full credit.

Students must read the book and complete a one-pager to earn the points.

- **Mexican/American Literature**
- Burro Genius by Victor Villasenor (AW)
- Rain of Gold by Victor Villasenor (AW)
- **Chilean Literature**
- La Casa de los Espíritus by Isabel Allende (AW)
- **Colombian Literature**
- One Hundred Years of Solitude Gabriel Garcia Marquez (AW)
- **Brazilian Literature**
- The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho (AW)

Mr. Kircher-- Physical Education

- The Stand by Stephen King (SF)

Ms. Latigay – Math

- The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon (M/S)
- Swamplandia! by Karen Russel (F, AW)
- Go Ask Alice by “ Anonymous”
- All Creatures Great and Small by James Herriot (H, SS/A)
- All Things Bright and Beautiful by James Herriot (H, SS/A)
- All Things Wise and Wonderful by James Herriot (H, SS/A)
- Atlas Shrugged by Ayn Rand (SF, R, M/S)

Mr. Maddox— Math

- Mathematics, a Human Endeavor: A Textbook for Those Who Think They Don't Like the Subject by Harold Jacobs (NF)

Ms. Mendoza– Spanish

- The Infernal Devices by Cassandra Clare (F)
- Eat, Pray Love by Elizabeth Gilbert (T/A)
- The Glass Castle by Jeanette Walls,
- The Short and Tragic Life of Robert Peace by Jeff Hobbs (B/A)
- Seabiscuit or Unbroken by Laura Hillenbrand(NF)
- Interpreter of Maladies by Jhumpa Lahiri (SS/A)
- Emma, Sense and Sensibility by Jane Austen (CL)
- Middlesex by Jeffrey Eugenides
- The Brief and Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao by Junot Diaz
- Americanah by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
- Blindness José Saramago (AW)

Ms. Mendoza– Spanish (Continued)

- Why Not Me? by Mindy Kaling (H)
- Gone Girl by Gillian Flynn
- The Girl on the Train by Paula Hawkins (M/S)
- The Girl with the Pearl Earring by Tracy Chevalier
- All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr
- Snowflower and the Secret Fan by Lisa See (HF)
- Ready Player One by Ernest Cline (SF)
- Eleanor and Park by Rainbow Rowell (R)
- The Harry Potter Series by J.K. Rowling

Ms. Morris– World Literature

Incentive: Students can earn optional points towards their Literary Analysis (LRA/AIM) or Writing categories by:

- completing a one-page typed analysis (see me for prompt choices)
- briefly discussing the book with me

- Captain Corelli's Mandolin by Louis de Bernieres
- Snow Falling on Cedars by David Guterson
- Accordion Crimes by Annie Proux
- The Lord of the Rings Series by J.R.R. Tolkien
- Guns, Germs and Steel by Jared Diamond (NF)
- Blindness by Jose Saramago
- The Lives of Girls and Women by Alice Munro
- In the Language of Love by Diane Schoemperlen

Ms. Sharpe – World History

Incentive: Students must read the book and pass an AR Test with at least a 90%. They can do this once a semester and replace any test grade OR add 10 points to the midterm or final.

Complete descriptions of each book on teacher website in the locker, labeled Recommended Reading List.

- NF Salt: A World History by Kurlansky
- NF Reading Lolita in Tehran by Nafisi
- NF All But My Life by Klein
- F Dante's Daughter by Heuston
- F A Bottle in the Gaza Sea by Zenati
- F The Walking Drum by L'Amour
- F Paradise of the Blind by Duong
- F A Thousand Splendid Suns by Hosseini
- F Ishmael by Quinn
- F The Underdogs by Azuela
- F Bloodline by Cary
- F A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier by Beah
- F A Heart of Darkness by Conrad
- NF Tasting the Sky: A Palestinian Memoir by Barakat
- F Clouds of Sparrow by Matsuoka

Ms. Sharpe – World History (Continued)

Complete descriptions of each book on teacher website in the locker, labeled “Recommended Reading List.”

- F Genghis: Lords of the Bow by Conn
- F Anil’s Ghost by Ondaatje
- F Bride Price by Emecheta
- NF Robespierre by McGowen
- F Memoirs of a Geisha by Golden
- F Joy Luck Club by Tan
- F Bonesetter’s Daughter by Tan
- F Crusade: The Heretic’s Secret by Wilson
- NF Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed by Diamond
- NF In the Garden of Beasts: Love, Terror, and an American Family in Hitler's Berlin by Larson
- NF We Band of Angels: The Untold Story of the American Women Trapped on Bataan by Norman
- NF Farewell to Manzanar by Houston
- NF Flags of Our Fathers: Heroes of Iwo Jima by Bradley
- NF Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution by Jiang

Ms. Siegler-- English I

Incentive: Students must read the book, discuss it with me, and complete a one-pager to earn 10 points back on their midterm/final for that semester (this option can only be done once)--otherwise they can earn full credit back on an incomplete/missing assignment.

- The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother by James McBride (B/A, NF)
- I'll Give You the Sun by Jandy Nelson (F)
- All the Bright Places by Jennifer Niven (F)
- Bright Side by Kim Holden (F)
- Etched in Sand by Regina Calcaterra (B/A, NF)
- Coming Clean by Kimberly Rae Miller (B/A, NF)

Ms. Vazquez- Counselor

Pizza lunch with
Ms. Vazquez

- Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza by Gloria Anzaldua
- The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros
- Women, Race and Class by Angela Davis
- Always Running: La Vida Loca: Gang Days in L.A.: Luis J. Rodriguez
- The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao by Junot Diaz
- A People's History of The United States by Howard Zinn