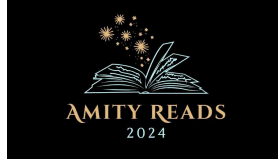


# AMITY REGIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOLS

## *Bethany and Orange Campuses*



Dear Amity students, families, and faculty,

This year, Amity Reads, Amity's summer reading program, will again be linked to the **Portrait of the Graduate**, asking students in grades 7-12 to begin thinking about how each characteristic plays a role in their summer reading book of choice.

Developed by a team of students, community members, and Amity educators, the [Portrait of the Graduate](#) (POG) is a set of identified characteristics that all students need to cultivate and demonstrate by the time they graduate from high school. These characteristics include being an effective **communicator, collaborator, empathizer, problem solver, and planner.**

This fall, we will ask students to share their books and think about how their books showcased one or more of the POG characteristics.

Students should select one book that suits them in terms of topic and reading level. It can be fiction, nonfiction, graphic novel, audiobook -- any book that interests them is fine. There are many ways to get a book. Libraries are excellent places to start! The school and town libraries are great resources. You can also purchase the book online or at an area bookstore. Again, students are welcome to listen to their book in audio format if they so choose. Please check out our [resources page](#) for more book information.

Here are a few of things students should know before selecting a book:

- All students should finish reading their books by the time they return to school in August. **Students will then be asked to submit a reflection connecting their book to one of the POG characteristics. This will happen sometime during the first few weeks of school.**
- At the beginning of the school year, students will also have an opportunity to discuss their books in their Advisory groups.
- Links to the response forms, Governor's Summer Reading information, and a suggested list of titles will be posted on the Amity website.
- Throughout the year, students will develop a clearer understanding of how the Amity POG characteristics play a role in all of their classes and how developing the characteristics will help them grow as people.

If you have any questions, please send an email to [andrea.drewry@amityregion5.org](mailto:andrea.drewry@amityregion5.org).

Thank you,

Kathy Burke, AMSO Principal & Jason Tracy, AMSB Principal