2026

9th Grade Summer Reading

Students are required to choose TWO of the following books to read over the summer break. Students may choose from any of the books listed below and must be prepared to complete an assignment for each book during the first week of school.

1. *Ghost* (Book #1) by Jason Reynolds

Genre: Sports Fiction (Track) - Ghost is fascinated with world records. He dreams of setting one of his own, but his troubled past is slowing him down.

2. *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury

Genre: Dystopian Fiction - Guy Montag lives in an oppressive society where his job as a firefighter is to burn any books that are found. In a time when intellect is suppressed and independent thought is discouraged, he challenges the status quo but must face the consequences.

3. *The Maze Runner* (Book #1) by James Dashner

Genre: Dystopian Science Fiction - Thomas is dropped into a community of boys where they are trapped in a maze and must work together to find their way out and return home.

4. *Dragon's Kiss* (Book #1) by E.A. Winters

Genre: Fantasy Fiction - A dragonlord trains teenage assassins in a secluded mountain, but everything they're working toward is a lie. Semra risks all she has known to expose the truth and save lives.

5. *Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus* by Dusti Bowling

Genre: Realistic Fiction - Aven, a girl born without arms, moves to Arizona when her parents take over a rundown theme park. She makes unlikely friends and uncovers a mystery within the park.

6. *Ordinary Heroes: A Memoir of 9/11* by Joseph Pfeifer

Genre: 9/11 Memoir Non-Fiction

**Contains sensitive material* - As the first to arrive at the North Tower, Fire Chief Joseph Pfeifer tells his story of the horrific chaos that ensued after the terrorist attack on 9/11.

***7. Night* by Elie Wiesel**

Genre: WWII Memoir Non-Fiction

**Contains sensitive material* - Holocaust survivor, Eliezer Wiesel, recounts his experiences of being a teenager in concentration camps during WWII. Alongside his father, the pair must do what they can to evade the flames of the crematorium.