

PENN-DELCO SCHOOL DISTRICT

NORTHLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

SUMMER READING

GRADE 7

2026-2027 School Year

Spring 2026

Dear Parent and Students:

As English Language Arts teachers, we value the practice of reading all year long, not just during the school year. For that reason, we have developed a required summer reading assignment because we believe it will help students meet academic challenges in the coming year and encourage them to develop independent reading habits.

Students are required to read one book from the attached list that focuses on the theme of leadership through real-life role models or characters who take charge and make a difference. The books are available in community libraries and are available for purchase on various websites such as Amazon.com.

Directions for all students entering Grade 7

Every student entering Grade 7 should:

- 1. Choose a book from the attached list.**
- 2. Complete a graphic organizer—one is enclosed in the packet. Bring the graphic organizer to reading class on the first day of school in September.**

This packet of information is also available on the Penn-Delco website at www.pdsd.org.

The above information, along with a list of book descriptions, will be reviewed and discussed in ELA classes before the end of the school year. Thank you in advance for your support of this program.

Sincerely,

The Northley 7th Grade ELA Teachers

Incoming Seventh Grade Summer Reading Books

Required Reading: Choose one book from this list:

Alexander, K. Booked - Realistic Fiction, Graphic Novel. Grade level 5-8. Soccer, family, love, and friendship, take center stage as twelve-year-old Nick learns the power of words as he wrestles with problems at home, stands up to a bully, and tries to impress the girl of his dreams. Helping him along are his best friend and sometimes teammate, Coby, and The Mac, a rapping librarian who gives Nick inspiring books to read.

Avi. Nothing But The Truth – Realistic Fiction. Grade level 4-8. Philip Malloy, a freshman, causes a disturbance at school by humming the National Anthem to annoy his teacher -- and the minor incident turns into a national scandal when the teacher is accused of being unpatriotic. The tale is told through a series of journal entries, letters, and memos.

Draper, S. Blended - Realistic Fiction. Grade level 3-7. Eleven-year-old Isabella's blended family is more divided than ever in this "timely but genuine" story about divorce and racial identity. Isabella has to switch lives every week: One week she's Isabella with her dad, his girlfriend Anastasia, and her son Darren living in a fancy house where they are one of the only black families in the neighborhood. The next week, she's Izzy with her mom and her boyfriend John-Mark in a small, not-so-fancy house that she loves.

Haddix, M. Among the Hidden – Dystopian/Science Fiction/Suspense. Grade level 3-7. Luke has never been to school. He's never had a birthday party, or gone to a friend's house for an overnight. Luke is one of the shadow children, a third child forbidden by the Population Police. Then, one day Luke sees a girl's face in the window of a house where he knows two other children already live. Finally, he's met a shadow child like himself. Jen is willing to risk everything to come out of the shadows--does Luke dare to become involved in her dangerous plan? Can he afford not to?

Horowitz, A. Stormbreaker (Alex Rider) - Action/Adventure. Grade level 5-9. Fourteen-year-old Alex has always been told that his uncle was killed in a car accident. But Alex starts to unravel the mysterious truth when he discovers that his uncle's windshield was riddled with bullet holes. As Alex ventures deeper into his uncle's secret life, he finds himself running from terrorists and working for the government. Can he handle the mission? The fate of England depends on it.

Nelson, O. The Girl Who Owned a City - Science Fiction Novel OR Graphic Novel. Grade level 5-12. Lisa and her younger brother Todd are struggling to stay alive in a world where no one is safe. Other children along Grand Avenue need help as well. They band together to find food, shelter, and protection from dangerous gangs invading their neighborhood. When Tom Logan and his army start making threats, Lisa comes up with a plan and leads her group to a safer place. But how far is she willing to go to protect what's hers?

Yousafzai, M. I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by The Taliban. Informational Memoir. Grade 7-12. "I come from a country that was created at midnight. When I almost died it was just after midday." When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley in Pakistan, one girl spoke out. Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education. Malala's miraculous recovery has taken her on an extraordinary journey from a remote valley in northern Pakistan to the halls of the United Nations in New York. At sixteen, she became a global symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest nominee ever for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Name _____

Incoming 7th Grade SUMMER READING STORY MAP

Title _____

Author: _____

All responses must be in complete sentences.

Before Reading:

Predict: what do you think this book is about? _____

What do you learn from the summary of the book (back or inside flap)? _____

Read the first two chapters. What are three (3) important things you learned?

Make a personal connection to the topic of this story. _____

During Reading:

List 8 Important Events/Ideas from the beginning, middle and end of the story.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

After Reading:

Author's Purpose:

What was the author's purpose for writing this text? Circle from the list below:

Entertain Persuade Inform

How do you know that this was the author's purpose? Explain by providing at least one example from the text.

What is a theme or central idea in this novel? _____

Give an example from the story to support this theme or idea: _____

Write a 5 sentence summary of this novel. Focus on the big ideas, not on the details: _____

What is your opinion on the topic (or the book in general)? Provide at least two pieces of evidence from the text to support your response. _____
