Summer Reading Assignment for Incoming 8th Graders

Assignment Overview:
● Reading Selection: Choose **TWO** books from the list below.
● Reading Timeline: Complete the reading before the first week of school.
● In-Class Activities: Be prepared to engage in discussions and activities related to your chosen book during the first week of school. You will spend a class discussing the two books you read in lit. circles, after which you will have time to do some writing on the books you read.

Suggested Preparation:
● As you read, consider taking notes on key characters, plot developments, and themes to aid in discussions. You may use post-it notes or a notebook to collect your ideas, thoughts, questions.

8th Grade Summer Reading List

1. ***Hungry Bones*** **by Louise Hung:** Molly Teng and her mother Dot move nearly every year, and the summer before her 8th grade year, Molly finds herself in Texas, unhappy to start all over again. She discovers her house is haunted, and her unlikely friendship with the resident "ghost" awakens her to new possibilities of identity and friendship.

2. ***The Giver*** **by Lois Lowry**: In this futuristic, dystopian novel, Jonas, on the cusp of his twelfth birthday, is about to receive his Official Assignment, "receiver of memory," and this assignment, paired with his own unusual abilities, instigates a desperate mission.

3. ***Funny in Farsi*** **by Firoozeh Dumas:** This memoir shares one Iranian girl's experiences of growing up in America. From weekly visits to Disneyland to shopping for new outfits for her Barbie dolls and discovering a love for reading, Dumas details her family's often hilarious adventures as they struggle to fit into the very culture with which they find themselves so enamored.