June 2026

Dear Incoming Sixth Grader,

Welcome to the sixth-grade summer reading activities! We look forward to working with you in September and learning how you feel about the characters in these two sixth-grade favorites.

There are two books that you need to read this summer as you prepare for Reading class:

Crash, by Jerry Spinelli
Count Me In! by Varsha Bajaj

You can purchase your own copy or borrow from a local library. Even if you choose to listen along, you need to have a hard-copy available in September for activities and quizzes! Below are the ideas that you should consider so that you are prepared.



Activity #1 – Read the novel ***Crash,*** by Jerry Spinelli. Think about these questions so that you'll be able to answer them when you come to school in September:

1. What do think is the worst trait the character Crash possesses? Why do you think so?
2. Does Crash do anything that would change your opinion of him? If yes, why? If no, why not?

Activity #2 – Read ***Count Me In,*** by Varsha Bajaj. Choose one of the two main characters, Karina or Chris, to think about. Be prepared to discuss the following topics with regard to that character.



- ☐ ***"Why is it so hard to do the right thing?"***
- ☐ ***"What does an American look like?"***

We look forward to hearing your ideas about these stories, their themes, and their characters. If you have any questions, please feel free to email any of us at tarena@ncboe.org, smoran@ncboe.org, or elittle@ncboe.org .

Enjoy your summer,

Mrs. Arena, Mrs. Moran, Mrs. Little