

Lincoln Middle School

400 Dunellen Avenue
Dunellen, New Jersey 08812
Phone (732)-968-0885
Fax (732)-424-1359


Joseph Moran
Principal

Patricia Bobko
Guidance Counselor

June 13, 2008

Dear Parents or Guardians,

The Dunellen Public School Summer Reading Program for incoming 6th graders requires the reading of one book. A copy of the required reading selection will be provided by the district.

 Students entering **Grade 6** will read *The Cay*, by Theodore Taylor. In this book a boy handicapped by blindness is thrust into an unfamiliar environment and is forced to grow up quickly.

As students read the required title they should complete the enclosed graphic organizer page. The completed organizer pages should be brought in on the first full day of school and will be graded as a quiz. Students will write an essay in class following a class discussion about the book. The essay will be graded as a test.

We are hopeful that through our summer reading requirement students will grow in their enjoyment of reading while applying their analytic literary skills.

Yours truly,

Joseph Moran

JM/pg

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Dear Parents & Guardians,

A committee of parents, students, board members and administration have revised the “Summer Reading Program” for 2008. Students must complete their required reading selection and one student choice novel from the enclosed list.

Students entering **grade 7** are required to read *Tangerine*, by Edward Bloor. Students entering **grade 8** will be required to read *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*, by Mildred Taylor. The district will provide a copy of the appropriate grade level book to each student. While reading, students will complete the enclosed graphic organizers. On the first full day of school students will bring in their organizers, which will be graded as a quiz grade. Students will write an essay in class following class discussion of their book. The essay will be graded as a test.

From the enclosed “Suggested Summer Reading Briefs” students are to select a second book. These selections should be available through the Dunellen Library. After reading the book students must select and complete one project from the list below. This project is to be brought to school on the first full day of school.

-  Write a letter to the author giving your opinion of the book.
-  Analyze the main character and explain how he/she has changed.
-  Change the ending of the story.

We hope that through our summer reading program students will grow in their enjoyment of reading and will apply their analytic literary skills.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at 732-968-0885 ext. 36. Thank you for your assistance in our partnership to educate the students of Dunellen.

Yours truly,


Joseph Moran
Principal

JM/pg

Dunellen School District
2008 Suggested Summer Reading Briefs

Grade 7

Rumble Fish, S.E. Hinton

-  An absent minded street hood named Rusty James tries to be like his legendary older brother, and ruins his life in the process.


The Book of Three, Lloyd Alexander

-  In this science fiction book, Taran, the Assistant Pig Keeper is forced on a quest when his oracle pig, Hen Wen escapes.


The Outsiders, S.E. Hinton

-  Tells the story of a gang fight and how a group of misfits find themselves in a war against a rival gang.

Izzy, Willy, Nilly, Cynthia Voigt


-  As a result of a car accident Izzy, a popular cheerleader, overcomes her physical disabilities and gains an unexpected friendship.

Far North, Will Hobbs


-  Gabe visits his father in Canada and then takes a plane trip that lands before its destination. What follows are a string of events eventually leaving two boys to find a means to survive and escape Deadmen's Valley.

Grade 8


Nothing But the Truth, Avi

-  A student's argument with a teacher gets blown out of proportion as more people become involved.


The Pearl, John Steinbeck

-  Kino and his wife hope to find a life of comfort and happiness through the great pearl Kino has found. This dream is shattered and the book focuses on man's dreams and how they can be destroyed by greed and evil.


Light in the Forest, Conrad Richter

-  The Lenape Indians kidnapped John Cameron Butler, at the age of four. He learned their customs and traditions. At 15 years of age John must be returned to his white parents. John must choose his destiny: who is he and where does he really belong?


Jacob Have I Loved, Katherine Paterson

-  Sarah lives in the Chesapeake Bay with her family. She often contributes to her family's income through her hard work. Sarah will need to face leaving the island before she can find a true place for herself in the world.


Homecoming, Cynthia Voigt

-  The four Tillerman children are abandoned by their mother. They travel for weeks to the great aunt's, only to find that she has died. Eventually the children journey to their grandmother's and find a place both on her farm and in her heart.

A Man Who Was Poe, Avi

-  When Edmund loses his mother and sister he enlists the help of Poe himself to solve the mystery. But, is Poe looking for the solution to the mystery or a tale of murder to write about?

That Was Then, This is Now, S.E. Hinton

-  Two juvenile delinquents are growing apart, as one is growing up and the other is staying young and reckless.