

Incoming 8th graders

Required Summer Reading and Assignments

Dear Parents and Students:

The goal of summer reading is to reinforce the reading habits and skills acquired in the previous grades and to build on common prior knowledge when introducing new reading strategies and literature themes in 8th grade.

Incoming 8th graders are required to read three books during the summer. **Two books are assigned, while one is self-selected.**

Along with reading the books, students will **complete book reports, essay format, on the two assigned books, and for the self-selected book, students will create a book jacket.** Please see attached forms for details and rubrics. If typed, all reports need to be printed at home. These assignments will be due on the first day of school and will count toward the first trimester English Language Arts grade.

Required Reading:

- *That Was Then, This Is Now*, by S.E. Hinton
- *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas* by John Boyne
- Self-selected fiction book based on his/her reading and interest level

God Bless!

Mr. Foell

8th Grade Summer Reading Assignment: Book Report

Reading Reflection & Report

Responses are intended to enhance a reader's comprehension of the novel and deepen their understanding of character development, setting, conflict/resolution, and theme. Each of these elements will be addressed in the response activity outlined below. *For each of the assigned novels, students are asked to respond to the following prompts.*

- The report may be typed or handwritten
- Each paragraph should be 6-8 sentences
- Each report should be **NO MORE THAN 2 PAGES IN LENGTH**

Student Name:

Book Title:

Author:

EXPOSITION

Paragraph 1: Characters (Fully describe the main characters in each novel).

1. Is there anything unique about your characters appearance or behavior?
2. What personality qualities does this character possess?
3. How do the other characters in the story react to this character?

Paragraph 2: Setting

1. Where does the story take place?
2. When does it take place?
3. Write a detailed description of the setting and be sure to include sensory details.

PLOT STRUCTURE

Paragraph 3: Conflict (Problems faced by the character)

1. What is the central problem or conflict in the story?
2. Why does the conflict occur?
3. What are some ways the characters deal with the conflict?

Paragraph 4: Resolution (How the problem of the story is worked out)

1. How is the conflict resolved?
2. What happens after the conflict is resolved?

Paragraph 5: Reflection/Conclusion

1. What were your feelings about this book?
2. Is there a particular moment/character/plot point that you enjoyed? Explain why.

