Summer 2013 Reading Recommendations
8th Grade Going into 9th Grade

To continue to develop your personal tastes in reading and to maintain (and even increase) your reading skill level, please read at least 5 full-length texts over the summer months, such as:

- *Wintergirls* (Anderson)
- *Ghostgirl* (Hurley)
- *Monster* (Walter Dean Myers)
- *The Red Badge of Courage* (Crane)
- *Paper Towns* (Green)
- The Hunger Games Trilogy (Collins)
- *Divergent* and *Insurgent* (Roth)
- *The Fault in our Stars* (Green)
- *Miss Peregrine’s Home for Peculiar Children* (Riggs)
- *The Maze Runner Trilogy* (Dashner)
- *The Absolutely True Story of a Part-Time Indian* (Alexie)

To specifically prepare for the “Pathways to Theme” Unit, read fiction (in novels or short stories), such as…

- *50 Great Short Stories* (ed., Crane)
- The short stories of O. Henry
- *Nine Stories* (Salinger)
- *Tears of My Father* (Updike)

To specifically prepare for the “Foundations of Storytelling” unit, read classic texts, such as:

- *Ulysses* (Joyce)
- *The Iliad* (Homer)
- The poems of Sappho
- The fables of Aesop
- The stories of the Brothers Grimm
- The stories of Scheherazade

To specifically prepare for the “Classic Re-Mix” unit, read original and re-mixed texts, such as:

- *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* (Austin and Grahame-Smith)
- *Harry Revised* and *The Count of Monte Cristo*
- *The Wide Sargasso Sea* (Rhys)
- *Wicked* (McGuire)
- *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle* (Wroblewski)

To specifically prepare for the “Creative Non-Fiction” unit, read literary non-fiction texts such as:

- *Jumbo: This Being the True Story of the Greatest Elephant in the World* (Chambers)
- *The Taste of Sweet: Our Complicated Love Affair with Our Favorite Treats* (Chen)
- *The Big Necessity.* (George)
- *Women of Courage: Intimate Stories from Afghanistan* (Heidler)
- *Gang Leader for a Day: A Rogue Sociologist Takes to the Streets* (Venkatesh)