

Londonderry Middle School

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Londonderry Middle School is proud to announce our 4th annual Summer Reading Program. This program is designed to get students engaged in novels and other forms of literature. In addition, students will have the opportunity to participate in academic discussions with their peers about books that were read over the summer. Furthermore, trends show that student's academic performance dips, some only slightly and others significantly, over the summer months. In a study of middle school students (Heyns), the activity that correlated the most consistently and effectively to sustaining, and even increasing, a child's academic performance was reading.

In order to prevent academic decline and peak interest and readiness over the summer months, all middle school students, including incoming sixth, seventh and eighth graders, are required to read two books of their choosing over the summer. There will be multiple opportunities for each student to demonstrate that they have fulfilled this requirement.

1. They may choose a book from the LMS book group list (attached). If they choose this option, they must sign up online to attend the scheduled book group, read the book over the summer, and then attend the designated book group discussion offered in August or early September. Sign up for book discussions will be online for parents to plan accordingly. This is a great opportunity for students to reconnect after the summer months and also an opportunity for students to get to know new teachers or reconnect with former teachers. Please sign up by June 26th so that teachers can plan for their discussions. The link for the online book group sign up is: <http://goo.gl/I5Xtga>
2. Rather than attend a scheduled book group, they may choose to read a book of their own choice, either fiction or non-fiction, and complete the brochure sent home with this packet. Completion of the brochure takes the place of the discussion noted in the first option. They will then bring in their completed brochure during the first week of school and give it to their ASD teacher. The Library Media Center will have a suggested list of middle school appropriate books posted on our website as well if your child is looking for suggestions.
3. Students may choose to join the Leach Library Middle School Book group discussion. Attendance at this book group would replace *either* the book group discussion or brochure completion. This year's book discussion is going to be on *The Schwa Was Here* by Neal Shusterman. The first fifty participants to sign up on or after June 1, 2017, will receive a paperback copy of the book. The discussion will be held in the library meeting room at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 27, 2017.
4. **SECOND BOOK REQUIREMENT:** All students are also required to read a second book this year, either fiction or non-fiction, and bring it with them to school during the first week of school. All that is required is that they read it carefully and bring it with them to school. There is no written component involved as this will be a book share format and the group will consist of students sharing many different titles. All of this information will be on the school website's principal's page throughout the summer and will be discussed in June during Move-Up Day with all students.

We look forward to your feedback at the start of the school year and are anxious to hear about all the great books that were read this summer!!

Londonderry Middle School Staff and Administration