



Jones County High School Summer Reading List 2014


Dear JCHS Students,

PAWS to Read! This summer, whether you are on the beach, on vacation, playing video games on the couch, in band or cheer camp, football practice, basketball workouts, or working a summer job, please don't forget to do your summer reading assignment. *Summer reading is a requirement at JCHS.* Students are required to read one book from the provided summer reading list. Summer reading scores will count as **one test grade** for first nine-weeks test average in your English course. You may choose to take an online multiple choice test or choose one of the project options available. If you choose one of the project options, go to our summer reading website (<http://www.jonescountysummerreading.com>) to get project guidelines and grading rubric. If you choose to take the online multiple choice test, you may take the test during the summer on test days designated below, **or** you may take the test during an assigned time with your English class during the first two weeks of school.




SUMMER TESTING DATES

Thursday, June 19th from 1-3 P.M. or 6-8 P.M.

Tuesday, July 29th from 1-3 P.M. or 6-8 P.M.

You are responsible for locating the books through public libraries or bookstores. There is a limited supply of books that are available for summer check-out at the JCHS Main Campus front office. Just look for the  school house symbol. **NOTE: Summer Reading is NOT subject to the 9-12 redo policy.**


Historical Fiction

<p>Before We Were Free by Julia Alvarez (Lexile: 890) Summary: In the early 1960s in the Dominican Republic, twelve-year-old Anita learns that her family is involved in the underground movement to end the bloody rule of the dictator, General Trujillo.</p>	<p>Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe (Lexile: 890) Summary: Traces the growing friction between village leaders and Europeans determined to save the heathen souls of Africa. But its hero, a noble man who is driven by destructive forces, speaks a universal tongue.</p>
<p> Code Talker by Joseph Bruchac (Lexile: 910) Summary: After being taught in a boarding school run by whites that Navajo is a useless language, Ned Begay and other Navajo men are recruited by the Marines to become Code Talkers, sending messages during World War II in their native tongue.</p>	<p>  Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane (Lexile: 900) Summary: Young Henry Fleming had always dreamed of performing heroic deeds in battle. But as a raw recruit in the American Civil War, Henry experiences both fear and self-doubt. Will war make him a coward? or a hero?</p>









General Nonfiction
















<p>It Happened to Nancy by Beatrice Sparks (Lexile: 900) Summary: It Happened to Nancy, edited by Beatrice Sparks, is based on the diary of a 14 year old anonymous teenage girl whose love life, or what she thought was love, was destroyed.</p>	<p> Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story by Ben Carson (Lexile: 950) Summary: Tells the story of Dr. Ben Carson, providing an account of how he went from a poor child in Detroit, labeled the class dummy, to one of the world's leading pediatric neurosurgeons.</p>
<p> The Pact: Three Young Men Make a Promise and Fulfill a Dream by Sampson Davis, George Jenkins and Rameck Hunt (Lexile: 940) Summary: A true story of three African American boys from New Jersey who make a pact of friendship to support each other until all three graduate as doctors.</p>	
<p> Words Wound : Delete Cyberbullying And Make Kindness Go Viral by Justin Patchin (Lexile: 1060) Summary: Vicious words and damaging photos exchanged through texts, email, or social media can result in humiliation, broken friendships, punishment at school, and even legal prosecution. In some cases, online harassment has contributed to suicide. Written by experts in cyberbullying prevention, this book provides strategies for teens dealing with cyberbullying as well as for those who have taken part in bullying others. The book gives teens the tools they need to keep themselves safe online, protect their digital reputations, and make their schools and their communities kinder places. Includes true stories by teens who have been cyberbullied and are working to eliminate online bullying in their schools.</p>	

Mystery & Suspense

<p>Acceleration by Graham McNamee (Lexile: 670) Summary: Stuck working in the Lost and Found of the Toronto Transit Authority for the summer, seventeen-year-old Duncan finds the diary of a serial killer and sets out to stop him.</p>	<p>A Certain October by Angela Johnson Lexile: 870 Summary: Scotty's world is turned upside down when an accident leaves her brother severely injured, an acquaintance dead and Scotty feeling responsible.</p>
<p> Tom Clancy's Splinter Cell by David Michaels Lexile: Not Available Summary: "Based on Ubi Soft's bestselling game, Tom Clancy's Splinter Cell"--Cover p. 4. The National Security Agency ushers in the new dawn of intelligence-gathering techniques with one lone operative who has the right to spy, steal, destroy, and assassinate to protect American freedoms.</p>	<p>The Dummy Line: A Novel by Bobby (Robert) Cole Lexile: Not Available Summary: A father-daughter hunting trip turns into a violent game of cat and mouse in the manner of Deliverance. Jake Crosby, an avid turkey hunter, and his tomboy daughter, Katy, must fight for their lives in the swampy backwoods of Alabama when a revenge-crazed gang of ruffians hunt Jake down for killing one of their own in self-defense.</p>
<p>What happened to Cass McBride? By Gail Giles (Lexile: 520) Summary: After his younger brother commits suicide, Kyle Kirby decides to exact revenge on the person he holds responsible.</p>	

Teen/Realistic Fiction

<p>Copper Sun by Sharon M. Draper (Lexile: 820) Summary: Two fifteen-year-old girls--one a slave and the other an indentured servant--escape their Carolina plantation and try to make their way to Fort Moses, Florida, a Spanish colony that gives sanctuary to slaves.</p>	<p> Gingerbread by Rachel Cohn (Lexile: 960) Summary: After being expelled from a fancy boarding school, Cyd Charisse's problems with her mother escalate after Cyd falls in love with a sensitive surfer and is subsequently sent from San Francisco to New York City to spend time with her biological father.</p>
<p>This Lullaby by Sarah Dessen (Lexile: 820) Summary: Raised by a mother who's had five husbands, eighteen-year-old Remy believes in short-term, no-commitment relationships until she meets Dexter, a rock band musician.</p>	<p>  Schooled by Paul Langan (Lexile: 730) Summary: Lionel Shephard dreams of joining the NBA, but while his father disapproves of his plans, his teachers are threatening to fail him--unaware of his poor reading abilities--and Lionel needs to decide how far he is willing to go for his dreams.</p>
<p>  If I Stay by Gayle Forman (Lexile: 830) Summary: Mia has no memory of the accident that changed her life. This inexperienced 17-year-old only recalls riding on that slippery Oregon road with her family, then, in an instant, seeing herself lifted from the twisted wreck. This affecting story of one young woman's struggle through tragedy and grieving</p>	<p>  Odd Girl Out: The Hidden Culture of Aggression in Girls by Rachel Simmons (Lexile: 930) Summary: Dirty looks and taunting notes are just a few examples of girl bullying that girls and women have long suffered through silently and painfully. With this book Rachel Simmons elevated the nation's consciousness and has shown millions of girls, parents, counselors, and teachers how to deal with this devastating problem. <i>Odd Girl Out</i> puts the spotlight on this issue, using real-life examples from both the perspective of the victim and of the bully.</p>
<p>Speak Author: Anderson, Laurie Halse (Lexile: 690) Summary: A traumatic event in the summer has a devastating effect on Melinda's freshman year of high school.</p>	<p> Handbook for Boys by Walter Dean Myers Summary: Jimmy and Kevin could really use a guide to life. Their activities almost land them in juvenile detention until Duke employs them in his Harlem barbershop. Duke has rules for everything. But is he offering good advice or just more aggravation?</p>

Fantasy/Sci-fi/ Horror	
 Seraphina Rachel Hartman (Lexile: 760) Summary: In a world where dragons and humans coexist in an uneasy truce and dragons can assume human form, Seraphina, whose mother died giving birth to her, grapples with her own identity amid magical secrets and royal scandals, while she struggles to accept and develop her extraordinary musical talents.	  Speaker for the Dead Orson Scott Card (Lexile: 850) Summary: Now, long years later, a second alien race has been discovered, but again the aliens' ways are strange and frightening...again, humans die. And it is only the Speaker for the Dead, who is also Ender Wiggin the Xenocide, who has the courage to confront the mystery...and the truth. Speaker for the Dead is the second novel in Orson Scott Card's Ender Quintet.
 Matched Ally Condie (Lexile: 680) Summary: In a futuristic society, 17-year-old Cassia has all her choices made for her – what to read, what to watch and who to marry. Cassia is pleasantly surprised that her friend Xander is chosen as her marriage Match. But when she enters Xander's data into the system, his face disappears and for a split second, the face of Ky, an Aberration, appears. Cassia's not sure who she is supposed to be with now. Ky is prohibited from Matching, but Cassia begins to have feelings for him. Slowly Cassia goes down a path of rebellion against the Society and craves running outdoors, reading forbidden poetry and most of all, Ky. However, the Society will not take rebellion lightly.	  Jurassic Park by Michael Crichton (Lexile: 710) Summary: When billionaire John Hammond exploits genetic engineering to create an island theme park populated by real dinosaurs, an attempted theft by a rival bio-genetics company compromises the park's electric fences, leaving a safety evaluation team--and Hammond's two grandchildren--in grave danger.   Warning: Watching the movie will not provide enough information to pass any assessment.
  The Scorch Trials by James Dashner (Lexile: 720) Summary: Continuing where “The Maze Runner” (2009) left off, this novel finds Thomas and the other gladers enjoying their escape from the maze that nearly claimed their lives. However, their relief is short-lived, before long, they wind up in a barren, dry landscape known as the Scorch, home to the Cranks, people infected by a disease called the flare. Thomas and the others are presented with an ultimatum: in order to survive, they must travel 100 miles in two weeks to reach a rumored safe haven within the Scorch.	  Saga by Conner Kostick Summary: "Sequel to the award-winning Epic"--Cover. On Saga, a world based on a video role-playing game, fifteen-year-old Ghost lives to break rules, but the Dark Queen who controls Saga plans to enslave its people and those of New Earth, and Ghost and her airboarding friends, along with Erik and his friends from Epic, try to stop her.
  Maximum Ride: Angel Experiment by James Patterson (Lexile: 700) Summary: After the mutant Erasers abduct the youngest member of their group, the "birdkids," who are the result of genetic experimentation, take off in pursuit and find themselves struggling to understand their own origins and purpose.	
Graphic Novels	
 Maus: a survivor's tale by Art Spiegelman Lexile: Not Available Summary: A son struggles to come to terms with the horrific story of his parents and their experiences during the Holocaust and in postwar America.	The Plain Janes by Cecil Castellucci Lexile: Not Available Summary: When transfer student Jane is forced to move from the big city to suburbia, she thinks that her life is over until she meets three other girls named Jane who decide to form a secret art gang and turn the town and high school upside down
Yummy: the last days of a Southside Shorty by Greg Neri Lexile: Not Available Summary: A graphic novel based on the true story of Robert "Yummy" Sandifer, an eleven-year old African American gang member from Chicago who shot a young girl and was then shot by his own gang members".	 War Brothers: The Graphic Novel by Sharon McKay Lexile Not Available Summary: At just 14 years old, Jacob and his young friends are beginning their schooling at George Jones Seminary for Boys in Uganda when they are kidnapped and forced to become child soldiers in the LRA, the Lord's Resistance Army. Innocent at first, the boys face harder and harder trials of brutality and starvation, in which they are forced to kill to survive. When they can't take it any longer, Jacob and his remaining friends travel from northern Uganda into Sudan. Author McKay and illustrator Daniel Lafrance offer this graphic novel as an introduction to the reality of the atrocities committed in Uganda in the early 2000s.
  Death Note, Volume 1 by Tsugumi Ohba Lexile: Not Available Summary: Light Yagami is an ace student with great prospects - and he's bored out of his mind. But all that changes when he finds the <i>Death Note</i> , a notebook dropped by a rogue Shinigami death god. Any human whose name is written in the notebook dies, and now Light has vowed to use the power of the <i>Death Note</i> to rid the world of evil. But when criminals begin dropping dead, the authorities send the legendary detective L to track down the killer. With L hot on his heels, will Light lose sight of his noble goal...or his life?	
Sports	
 Athletic Shorts: Six Short Stories by Chris Crutcher (Lexile: 1010) Summary: A collection of short stories featuring characters from earlier books by Chris Crutcher. The protagonists are involved in sports, but the real theme is growing--grappling with something tough and finding the courage to carry on.	Bleachers Author: Grisham, John (Lexile: 840) Summary: High school All-American Neely Crenshaw was probably the best quarterback to play for the legendary Messina Spartans. Fifteen years later, Neely has come home to bury Coach Eddie Rake. As Coach Rake's 'boys' sit in the bleachers, they replay the old glories, and try to decide once and for all whether they love Eddie Rake or hate him.
Boy 21 by Mathew Quick (Lexile: 830) Summary: Finley, an unnaturally quiet boy who is the only white player on his high school's varsity basketball team, lives in a dismal Pennsylvania town that is ruled by the Irish mob, and when his coach asks him to mentor a troubled African American student who has transferred there from an elite private school in California, he finds that they have a lot in common in spite of their apparent differences.	Curveball: the year I almost lost my grip by Jordan Sonnenblick (Lexile: 800) Summary: After an injury ends former star pitcher Peter Friedman's athletic dreams, he concentrates on photography which leads him to a girlfriend, new fame as a high school sports photographer, and a deeper relationship with the beloved grandfather who, when he realizes he is becoming senile, gives Pete all of his professional camera gear.
Throw Like a Girl: How to Dream Big and Believe In Yourself By Jennie Finch Lexile: Not Available Summary: Jennie Finch draws from her personal experiences playing softball to offer advice to girls who are interested in sports and fitness, address some of the challenges girls face on a daily basis, and encourage them to dream and believe.	Happy, Happy, Happy: My Life and Legacy as the Duck Commander By Phil Robertson Lexile: Not Available Summary: This no-holds-barred autobiography chronicles the remarkable life of Phil Robertson, the original Duck Commander and <i>Duck Dynasty</i> ® star, from early childhood through the founding of a family business.  Warning: Watching the TV series will not provide enough information to pass any assessment
Student Top Picks	
 Fault in Our Star by John Green (Lexile: 850) Summary: Having been diagnosed as a terminal cancer patient, 16-year-old Hazel Lancaster is living on borrowed time. While attending a group therapy session for teens living with cancer, Hazel spies Augustus “Gus” Waters looking at her from across the room; when he asks her over, the two form an immediate connection that gives new meaning to their ever-shortening lives. From an overseas trip to Amsterdam to learning about the other's favorite type of novel, Hazel and Gus embark on a journey of self-discovery that allows them to come to terms with the nature of their illness and the inevitability of death – together.	  Divergent by Veronica Roth (Lexile: 700) Summary: In a future Chicago, citizens live split into five factions that define society. Tested as teenagers to see which faction suits them best, most matched for only one group have no chance to determine their own prospects. Some, however, receive multiple choices and become known as Divergents, individuals feared by group leaders who want their members to think and act a certain way. Sixteen-year-old Beatrice is a Divergent, born into the Abnegation faction but interested in Dauntless. Beatrice decides to leave her home group to experience Dauntless' way of life, but when she discovers a plot against her native Abnegation, she realizes she is the only one who can save them.
  Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins (Lexile: 810) Summary: In a future North America, where the rulers of Panem maintain control through an annual televised survival competition pitting young people from each of the twelve districts against one another, sixteen-year-old Katniss's skills are put to the test when she voluntarily takes her younger sister's place.	  City of Bones by Cassandra Clare (Lexile: 740) Summary: Suddenly able to see demons and the Shadowhunters who are dedicated to returning them to their own dimension, fifteen-year-old Clary Fray is drawn into a bizarre world when her mother disappears and Clary herself is almost killed by a monster.  Warning: Watching the movie will not provide enough information to pass any assessment.
 Looking for Alaska by John Green (Lexile: 930) Summary: Sixteen-year-old Miles' first year at Culver Creek Preparatory School in Alabama includes good friends and great pranks, but is defined by the search for answers about life and death after a fatal car crash.	