

LINCOLNWOOD 74 SCHOOL DISTRICT

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June, 2009

7th Grade Summer Reading

Dear 2009/2010 Seventh Graders and Parents:

Summer is here and thoughts of relaxation, summer activities, vacations, and family time abound. With this in mind, we would like to share our summer reading program with you; reading a good book is a perfect pastime for long, hot summer days.

Reading over the summer is crucial for maintaining all the gains in reading ability students make during the school year. Research shows that students who do not continue to read over summer vacation often lose some of the gains they have made during the school year. Parents, encourage your son or daughter to read by scheduling visits to the public library, having discussions about books family members are reading, and providing a regular, daily reading time.

All incoming seventh graders should read three or more books before the first day of classes on August 25th. Please select a book using these guidelines:

Select **one or more** of the following titles. These books will be helpful in gaining background knowledge for units that we will teach during the 2009-2010 school year.

- *The Misfits*, James Howe (Challenging – Lexile 960)
- *Freak*, Marcella Pixley (Moderate – Lexile 750)
- *Deliver Us From Normal*, Kate Klise (Easier – Lexile 690)

Select **two or more** of the following titles. These books are great reads for middle school students and have been selected for their great reviews and high interest levels.

- *Heat*, Mike Lupica (Challenging – Lexile 940)
- *Wednesday Wars*, Gary Schmidt (Challenging – Lexile 990)
- *Graceling*, Kristin Cashore (Moderate – Lexile 730)
- *Penny from Heaven*, Jennifer Holm (Moderate – Lexile 730)
- *Kimchi and Calamari*, Rose Kent (Easier – Lexile 670)
- *The House of the Scorpion*, Nancy Farmer (Easier – Lexile 660)

The Lincolnwood Library has been notified of the reading selections and they will be available for students to borrow. The books have also been ordered at the Barnes and Noble Bookstore in the Village Crossing shopping mall. They will be set aside in the Children's Department or on the summer reading table.

Happy Reading!

The Seventh Grade Reading and Language Arts Teachers