

# LINCOLNWOOD 74 SCHOOL DISTRICT

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June, 2009

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading

Dear 2009/2010 Eighth 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 eighth graders should read three or more books before the first day of classes on August 25<sup>th</sup>. Please select a book using these guidelines:

Select **one or more** books written by one of the following authors. These authors write about serious topics and are often read by high school students, so parents should help students make a selection.

- Laurie Halse Anderson
- Chris Crutcher
- Jacqueline Woodson

Select **one 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.

- *Does My Head Look Big in This?* Randa Abdel-Fattah
- *The Hunger Games*, Suzanne Collins
- *Epic*, Conor Kostick
- *Memoirs of a Teenage Amnesiac*, Gabrielle Zevin

Select **one or more** new books you haven't read yet, fiction or nonfiction. Be ready to discuss and recommend great books you discover to your classmates and teachers! Pick a book that will appeal to some of your friends and classmates, so make sure it isn't too easy or too hard.

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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.

Books by Laurie Halse Anderson

*Fever, 1793*

*Chains*

*Wintergirls*

Books by Chris Crutcher

*The Crazy Horse Electric Game*

*Athletic Shorts*

*Whale Talk*

*Ironman*

*Staying Fat For Sarah Byrnes*

*Stotan!*

*Running Loose*

Books by Jacqueline Woodson

*Hush*

*Locomotion*

*Miracle's Boys*

*If You Come Softly*

*Feathers*

*After Tupac & D Foster*