

Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School
2016-2017 Summer Reading List
Grade 5-8 Book List

Middle School Summer Reading Project – 2016

Every student attending Abby Kelley Foster Charter Middle School is **REQUIRED** to read two books during the summer. Each student will read the required book on the list for his/her grade level along with one additional choice book from the list attached.

ASSESSMENTS WILL BE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING:

Grade Required Book (list found on page 2) – Students will participate in classroom activities during the first 2 weeks of school to assess their understanding of the grade level required text.

Personal Choice Book (list found on pages 3-5)- All Middle School students will select one choice book to read over vacation. When we return to school in the fall, students will break into groups based on the choice book they read and spend an afternoon discussing the book with their peers and a teacher who also chose to read the same book.

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INCOMING 5TH GRADE	
Required Book:	Author:
<p><i>Hatchet</i> On his way to visit his recently divorced father in the Canadian mountains, thirteen-year old Brian Robeson is the only survivor when the single-engine plane crashes. His body battered, his clothes in shreds, Brian must now stay alive in the boundless Canadian wilderness. More than a survival story, <i>Hatchet</i> is a tale of tough decisions. When all is stripped down to the barest essentials, Brian discovers some stark and simple truths: Self-pity doesn't work. Despair doesn't work. And if Brian is to survive physically as well as mentally, he must discover courage.</p>	<p>Gary Paulson</p>
INCOMING 6TH GRADE	
Required Book:	Author
<p><i>The Sign of the Beaver</i> Although he faces responsibility bravely, thirteen-year-old Matt is more than a little apprehensive when his father leaves him alone to guard their new cabin in the wilderness. When a renegade white stranger steals his gun, Matt knows he has no way to shoot game or to protect himself. Only after meeting the proud, resourceful Indian boy, Attean, does Matt begin to understand the way of the Beaver clan and their growing problem in adapting to the white man and the changing frontier. Left alone to guard the family's wilderness home in eighteenth-century Maine, a boy is hard-pressed to survive until local Indians teach him their skills.</p>	<p>Elizabeth George Speare</p>
INCOMING 7TH GRADE	
Required Book:	Author
<p><i>When You Reach Me</i> By sixth grade, Miranda and her best friend, Sal, know how to navigate their New York City neighborhood. They know where it's safe to go, and they know who to avoid. Like the crazy guy on the corner. But things start to unravel. Sal gets punched by a kid on the street for what seems like no reason, and he shuts Miranda out of his life. The apartment key that Miranda's mom keeps hidden for emergencies is stolen. And then a mysterious note arrives, scrawled on a tiny slip of paper. The notes keep coming, and Miranda slowly realizes that whoever is leaving them knows things no one should know. Each message brings her closer to believing that only she can prevent a tragic death. Until the final note makes her think she's too late.</p>	<p>Rebecca Stead</p>
INCOMING 8TH GRADE	
Required Book:	Author
<p><i>The Boy in the Striped Pajamas</i> When Bruno returns home from school one day, he discovers that his belongings are being packed in crates. His father has received a promotion and the family must move from their home to a new house far away, where there is no one to play with and nothing to do. A tall fence running alongside stretches as far as the eye can see and cuts him off from the strange people he can see in the distance. But Bruno longs to be an explorer and decides that there must be more to this desolate new place than meets the eye. While exploring his new environment, he meets another boy whose life and circumstances are very different to his own, and their meeting results in a friendship that has devastating consequences.</p>	<p>John Boyne</p>

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<p>Personal Choice Book (All students must read at least one)</p>	
<p><i>Book Title:</i></p>	<p>Author:</p>
<p><i>Legend (A Legend Novel, Book 1)</i></p> <p>What was once the western United States is now home to the Republic, a nation perpetually at war with its neighbors. Born into an elite family in one of the Republic's wealthiest districts, fifteen-year-old June is a prodigy being groomed for success in the Republic's highest military circles. Born into the slums, fifteen-year-old Day is the country's most wanted criminal. But his motives may not be as malicious as they seem.</p> <p>From very different worlds, June and Day have no reason to cross paths - until the day June's brother, Metias, is murdered and Day becomes the prime suspect. Caught in the ultimate game of cat and mouse, Day is in a race for his family's survival, while June seeks to avenge Metias's death. But in a shocking turn of events, the two uncover the truth of what has really brought them together, and the sinister lengths their country will go to keep its secrets.</p>	<p>Marie Lu</p>
<p><i>Cinder, the Lunar Chronicles, Book 1</i></p> <p>Humans and androids crowd the raucous streets of New Beijing. A deadly plague ravages the population. From space, a ruthless lunar people watch, waiting to make their move. No one knows that Earth's fate hinges on one girl. . . .</p> <p>Cinder, a gifted mechanic, is a cyborg. She's a second-class citizen with a mysterious past, reviled by her stepmother and blamed for her stepsister's illness. But when her life becomes intertwined with the handsome Prince Kai's, she suddenly finds herself at the center of an intergalactic struggle, and a forbidden attraction. Caught between duty and freedom, loyalty and betrayal, she must uncover secrets about her past in order to protect her world's future.</p>	<p>Marissa Meyer</p>
<p><i>Code Talker</i></p> <p>Throughout World War II, in the conflict fought against Japan, Navajo code talkers were a crucial part of the U.S. effort, sending messages back and forth in an unbreakable code that used their native language. They braved some of the heaviest fighting of the war, and with their code, they saved countless American lives. Yet their story remained classified for more than twenty years.</p> <p>But now Joseph Bruchac brings their stories to life for young adults through the riveting fictional tale of Ned Begay, a sixteen-year-old Navajo boy who becomes a code talker. His grueling journey is eye-opening and inspiring. This deeply</p>	<p>Joseph Bruchac</p>

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<p>affecting novel honors all of those young men, like Ned, who dared to serve, and it honors the culture and language of the Navajo Indians.</p>	
<p><i>Elsewhere</i></p> <p>Welcome to Elsewhere. It is warm, with a breeze, and the beaches are marvelous. It's quiet and peaceful. You can't get sick or any older. Curious to see new paintings by Picasso? Swing by one of Elsewhere's museums. Need to talk to someone about your problems? Stop by Marilyn Monroe's psychiatric practice. Elsewhere is where fifteen-year-old Liz Hall ends up, after she has died. It is a place so like Earth, yet completely different. Here Liz will age backward from the day of her death until she becomes a baby again and returns to Earth. But Liz wants to turn sixteen, not fourteen again. She wants to get her driver's license. She wants to graduate from high school and go to college. And now that she's dead, Liz is being forced to live a life she doesn't want with a grandmother she has only just met. And it is not going well. How can Liz let go of the only life she has ever known and embrace a new one? Is it possible that a life lived in reverse is no different from a life lived forward?</p> <p>This moving, often funny book about grief, death, and loss will stay with the reader long after the last page is turned.</p>	<p>Gabrielle Zevin</p>
<p><i>El Deafo</i></p> <p>Going to school and making new friends can be tough. But going to school and making new friends while wearing a bulky hearing aid strapped to your chest? That requires superpowers! In this funny, poignant graphic novel memoir, author/illustrator Cece Bell chronicles her hearing loss at a young age and her subsequent experiences with the Phonic Ear, a very powerful—and very awkward—hearing aid.</p> <p>The Phonic Ear gives Cece the ability to hear—sometimes things she shouldn't—but also isolates her from her classmates. She really just wants to fit in and find a true friend, someone who appreciates her as she is. After some trouble, she is finally able to harness the power of the Phonic Ear and become “El Deafo, Listener for All.” And more importantly, declare a place for herself in the world and find the friend she’s longed for.</p>	<p>Cece Bell</p>
<p><i>The Graveyard Book</i></p> <p>In this Newbery Medal-winning novel, Bod is an unusual boy who inhabits an unusual place—he's the only living resident of a graveyard. Raised from infancy by the ghosts, werewolves, and other cemetery denizens, Bod has learned the antiquated customs of his guardians' time as well as their ghostly teachings—such as the ability to Fade so mere mortals cannot see him.</p> <p>Can a boy raised by ghosts face the wonders and terrors of the worlds of both the</p>	<p>Neil Gaiman</p>

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<p>living and the dead? And then there are being such as ghouls that aren't really one thing or the other.</p>	
<p><i>Every Soul a Star</i></p> <p>At Moon Shadow, an isolated campground, thousands have gathered to catch a glimpse of a rare and extraordinary total eclipse of the sun. Three lives are about to be changed forever:</p> <p>Ally: Ally likes the simple things in life-labyrinths, star-gazing, and comet-hunting. Her home, the moon shadow campground, is a part of who she is. She refuses to imagine it any other way.</p> <p>Bree: Popular, gorgeous (everybody says so), a future homecoming queen for sure. Bree wears her beauty like a suit of armor. But what is she trying to hide?</p> <p>Jack: Overweight and awkward, jack is used to spending a lot of time alone. But when opportunity knocks, he finds himself in situations he never would have imagined.</p> <p>Told from three distinct voices and perspectives, Wendy Mass weaves an intricate and compelling story about strangers coming together, unlikely friendships, and finding one's place in the universe.</p>	<p>Wendy Mass</p>
<p><i>Michael Vey: The Prisoner of Cell 25 (Book 1)</i></p> <p>To everyone at Meridian High School, fourteen-year-old Michael Vey is nothing special, just the kid who has Tourette's syndrome. But in truth, Michael is extremely special—he has electric powers. Michael thinks he is unique until he discovers that a cheerleader named Taylor has the same mysterious powers. With the help of Michael's friend, Ostin, the three of them set out to discover how Michael and Taylor ended up with their abilities, and their investigation soon brings them to the attention of a powerful group who wants to control the electric teens—and through them, the world.</p>	<p>Richard Paul Evans</p>
<p><i>Outcasts United: The Story of a Refugee Soccer Team That Changed a Town</i></p> <p>Based on the adult bestseller, <i>Outcasts United: An American Town, a Refugee Team, and One Woman's Quest to Make a Difference</i>, this young people's edition is a complex and inspirational story about the Fugees, a youth soccer team made up</p>	<p>Warren St. John</p>

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<p>of diverse refugees from around the world, and their formidable female coach, Luma Mufleh. Clarkston, Georgia, was a typical southern town until it became a refugee resettlement center. The author explores how the community changed with the influx of refugees and how the dedication of Luma Mufleh and the entire Fugees soccer team inspired an entire community.</p>	
<p><i>Bystander</i></p> <p>Eric is the new kid in seventh grade. Griffin wants to be his friend. When you're new in town, it's hard to know who to hang out with—and who to avoid. Griffin seems cool, confident, and popular.</p> <p>But something isn't right about Griffin. He always seems to be in the middle of bad things. And if Griffin doesn't like you, you'd better watch your back. There might be a target on it.</p> <p>As Eric gets drawn deeper into Griffin's dark world, he begins to see the truth about Griffin: He's a liar, a bully, a thief. Eric wants to break away, do the right thing. But in one shocking moment, he goes from being a bystander . . . to the bully's next victim.</p>	<p>James Preller</p>