

# Summer Reading Choices

All synopses from [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) except as noted.

## For Incoming Eighth Graders in Scholarship or ELA:

### Choose ONE of the following books for your summer reading:

*Touching Spirit Bear* by Ben Mikaelson (choice for both levels)

“After severely injuring Peter Driscall in an empty parking lot, mischief-maker Cole Matthews is in major trouble. But instead of jail time, Cole is given another option: attend Circle Justice, an alternative program that sends juvenile offenders to a remote Alaskan Island to focus on changing their ways. Desperate to avoid prison, Cole fakes humility and agrees to go. While there, Cole is mauled by a mysterious white bear and left for dead. Thoughts of his abusive parents, helpless Peter, and his own anger cause him to examine his actions and seek redemption—from the spirit bear that attacked him, from his victims, and from himself.”

*I Am Number Four* by Pittacus Lore (choice for both levels)

“John Smith seems like an ordinary teenager, living a normal life with his guardian Henri in Paradise, Ohio. But for John, keeping a low profile is essential, because he is *not* an ordinary teenager. He’s an alien from the planet Lorien, and he’s on the run. A group of evil aliens from the planet Mogadore, who destroyed his world, are hunting anyone who escaped. Nine Loric children were sent to Earth to live in hiding until they grew up and developed their Legacies, powers that would help them fight back—and help them save us. Three of them are now dead. John is Number Four, and he knows he’s next....”

*Uglies* by Scott Westerfeld (choice for both levels)

“Tally is about to turn sixteen, and she can’t wait. In just a few weeks she’ll have the operation that will turn her from a repellent ugly into a stunningly attractive pretty. And as a pretty, she’ll be catapulted into a high-tech paradise where her only job is to have fun. But Tally’s new friend Shay isn’t sure she wants to become a pretty. When Shay runs away, Tally learns about a whole new side of the pretty world—and it isn’t very pretty. The authorities offer Tally a choice: find her friend and turn her in, or never turn pretty at all. Tally’s choice will change her world forever.”

## For Incoming Eighth Graders in Honors

*To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee (**required**)

“A gripping, heart-wrenching, and wholly remarkable tale of coming-of-age in a South poisoned by virulent prejudice, it views a world of great beauty and savage inequities through the eyes of a young girl, as her father—a crusading local lawyer—risks everything to defend a black man unjustly accused of a terrible crime.”

*Eighth-grade teachers have provided a study guide to assist incoming Honors 8 students with the summer reading. The study guide is NOT required and NOT extra credit, but rather a helpful resource to help guide the reading and assist students in focusing on the important elements of each chapter. The study guide will be posted on the building’s website by the beginning of June.*

*Students will work with the summer reading title in the first month of school. They will complete a mini-project involving literary analysis, which will count for approximately 5% of the final quarter grade. The summer reading titles will also be referenced throughout the year as students read other novels in class.*