

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading Assignment 2018



Dear Future 8<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts Student,

Over the summer you should read as many books as you have time and interest to read. Reading experts note that most young readers suffer a backslide in reading skills during the summer. Research shows that a consistent amount of reading each day (30-45 minutes) will increase reading and comprehension skills and benefit you in every subject, even math. Reading is a wonderful way to escape a hot, humid summer afternoon and to travel anywhere a good author can take you. It will also keep your mind sharp and prepare you for your 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes.

**RESILIENCE** - In each of the novels you could possibly choose from for summer reading there are characters overcoming extreme obstacles in order to persevere or survive. Often times the character(s) had to show great resilience. **Resilience can be defined as the “ability to recover or bounce back readily from illness, depression, adversity, or the like.”** Think about this quality as it relates to your novel.

### RECOMMENDED NOVEL LIST

Choose one of the novels below and read it.

**That Was Then This Is Now** by S.E. Hinton  
**Alas Babylon** by Pat Frank  
**The Call of the Wild** by Jack London  
**The Golden Compass** by Phillip Pullman  
**Tangerine** by Edward Bloor  
**Julie of the Wolves** by Jean George  
**The Boy in the Striped Pajamas** by John Boyne  
**The Five People You Meet in Heaven** by Mitch Albom  
**The Red Pony** by John Steinbeck

### ASSIGNMENT INFORMATION

1. All 8<sup>th</sup> grade students, **standard and advanced**, are required to read **one** book. Choose a book from the **Recommended Novel List**.
2. **Annotate** your novel as you read - looking for examples of characters who show resilience, or situations that require resilience. **Using sticky notes** to mark the location of these instances as you will need to use this information in an in-class writing assignment during the first full week after we return from summer vacation.
3. During the 1<sup>st</sup> week of school you will either create a dialectical journal (standard) or write a 5 paragraph essay (advanced) utilizing the annotations you have made while reading.