Dear Future 7th grade Language Arts Student:

While you are enjoying the summer, our hope is that you are able to distract yourself in a great book. Definitely take the time out to search for books that may interest you and read as much as you can. In order to prevent a decline in reading skills, the experts believe that students should be practicing daily. Research supports that with a consistent amount of reading each day (30-45 minutes), the benefit can be seen in every subject, including math. Reading is a wonderful way to get out of the sun and to travel anywhere a good author can take you. Taking advantage of reading during the summer, will also keep your mind sharp and prepare you for 7th grade.

As an upcoming 7th grade Standard or Advanced student, you are required to read one book from the list below. The copy of the book MUST come to class with you during the first week of school. The in-class writing assignment requires you to use quotes from the book, thus the assignment cannot be completed without a copy of the book.

Each of the books below includes important characters who are forced to make bold actions that affect the conflict and plot of the story. While reading your novel, you should use sticky notes or highlighters to annotate passages/quotes that are important to the conflict, plot, and theme of the story to illustrate the importance of making bold decisions and acting on them.

You may choose from the following books:

Where the Red Fern Grows – Wilson Rawls
Private Peaceful – by Michael Morpurgo
So B. It – by Sarah Weeks
My Side of the Mountain – Jean Craighead George
Cinder, by Marissa Meyer
A Wrinkle in Time – by Madeleine L'engle
Wonder – by R.J. Palacio
Swiss Family Robinson – by Johann David Wyss
Theodore Boone, Kid Lawyer – by John Grisham

The books must be finished before school begins.

1. Select and read a book from the list above.
2. Annotate important sections (see the explanation above).
3. During the 2nd 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.

7th Grade Teachers
Language Arts Team