

Watervliet City School District

Watervliet Junior High School
1245 Hillside Drive
Watervliet, New York 12189

June 2010

To: Incoming 7th and 8th Grade Students and Parents
From: Junior High School English Language Arts Department
Re: Summer Reading Program

Dear Parents and Students:

Attached you will find the new summer reading list for incoming Grades 7 & 8 students. The New York State Education Department has long encouraged students to read during the summer, as it enhances literacy skills developed throughout the school year. Reading for enjoyment is a practice that helps children increase their vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension. The state requires that all students read 25 books every school calendar year, and we are starting early with summer reading.

Students will be required to read two selections from the list before the start of the 2010-2011 school year. Students may purchase the books at local books stores, borrow the books from the public library, or borrow the books from the school district if available.

Upon returning to school in September, students will be given an assignment that they will be responsible for completing to assess their understanding of each book. These assignments will be the first major grades for English class. The best preparation for these assignments is careful reading so we have attached a graphic organizer to help record important details from the readings. While we are promoting reading as a skill, the enjoyment of reading, particularly summer reading, is important too. In other words, enjoy the experience!

While the utmost care has been used in preparing a list of books that is best suited for Grades 7 & 8 students, parents are encouraged to review the titles that their children have chosen. We hope that you and your children can enjoy both your summer and your reading.

Sincerely,

Watervliet Junior High School English Language Arts Department