

**WEST ISLIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS
SUMMER READING PROGRAM 2017**

**SUGGESTED READING LIST
GRADES 9-12**

Title	Description
<p><i>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</i> by Sherman Alexie</p>	<p>In his first book for young adults, bestselling author Sherman Alexie tells the story of Junior, a budding cartoonist growing up on the Spokane Indian Reservation. Determined to take his future into his own hands, Junior leaves his troubled school on the rez to attend an all-white farm town high school where the only other Indian is the school mascot. Heartbreaking, funny, and beautifully written, <i>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</i>, which is based on the author's own experiences, coupled with poignant drawings by acclaimed artist Ellen Forney, that reflect the character's art, chronicles the contemporary adolescence of one Native American boy as he attempts to break away from the life he was destined to live.</p>
<p><i>An American Plague: the True and Terrifying Story of the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793</i> by Jim Murphy</p>	<p>1793, Philadelphia. The nation's capital and the largest city in North America is devastated by an apparently incurable disease, cause unknown . . .</p> <p>In a powerful, dramatic narrative, critically acclaimed author Jim Murphy describes the illness known as yellow fever and the toll it took on the city's residents, relating the epidemic to the major social and political events of the day and to 18th-century medical beliefs and practices. Drawing on first-hand accounts, Murphy spotlights the heroic role of Philadelphia's free blacks in combating the disease, and the Constitutional crisis that President Washington faced when he was forced to leave the city—and all his papers—while escaping the deadly contagion. The search for the fever's causes and cure, not found for more than a century afterward, provides a suspenseful counterpoint to this riveting true story of a city under siege.</p>
<p><i>Every Bone Tells a Story: Hominin Discoveries, Deductions, and Debates</i> by Jill Rubalcaba & Peter Robertshaw</p>	<p>(Excerpt)</p> <p>Most people think the dead are silent, but to an archaeologist they're boisterous storytellers. Favorite tales come from remains thousands, even millions, of years old. Of course the dead don't leap out of their graves and give away their secrets. It takes scientists from every field imaginable to coax the details out of them. The stories are often garbled, and scientists don't always agree about what the dead are saying. And then sometimes another find comes along with a different version of the story that changes everything.</p> <p>A hundred years ago archaeologists were adventurers with a splash of scientist in their blood. They were driven to find things from the past—grand things, like treasures and kings. In the last century archaeology has changed dramatically. Today's archaeologists are scientists first and foremost. They are driven to find out about things from the past—often ordinary things belonging to ordinary people. These are the tales of four ordinary people—four hominins who lived long before recorded history.</p>
<p><i>Fat Kid Rules the World</i> by K. L. Going</p>	<p>Seventeen-year-old Troy, depressed, suicidal, and weighing nearly 300 pounds, gets a new perspective on life when a homeless teenager who is a genius on guitar wants Troy to be the drummer in his rock band.</p>
<p><i>Getting Away With Murder: The True Story of the Emmett Till Case</i> by Chris Crowe</p>	<p>The 1955 kidnapping and murder of 14-year-old Emmett Till in Mississippi is famous as a catalyst for the Civil Rights Movement. In clear, vivid detail Crowe investigates the before-and-aftermath of the crime, as well as the dramatic court trial, and places it into the context of the nascent Civil Rights Movement.</p>

<p><i>Bleachers</i> by John Grisham</p>	<p>High school All-American Neely Crenshaw was probably the best quarterback ever to play for the legendary Messina Spartans. Fifteen years have gone by since those glory days, and Neely has come home to Messina to bury Coach Eddie Rake, the man who molded the Spartans into an unbeatable football dynasty. Now as Coach Rake’s “boys” sit in the bleachers waiting for the dimming field lights to signal his passing, they replay the old games, relive the old glories, and try to decide once and for all whether they love Eddie Rake—or hate him. For Neely Crenshaw, a man who must finally forgive his coach—and himself—before he can get on with his life, the stakes are especially high.</p>
<p><i>The Lovely Bones</i> by Alice Sebold</p>	<p>The spirit of 14-year-old Susie Salmon describes her murder, her surprise at her new home in heaven and her witness to her family’s grief, efforts to find her killer and attempts to come to terms with what has happened.</p>
<p><i>Big Mouth and Ugly Girl</i> by Joyce Carol Oates</p>	<p>When sixteen-year-old Matt is falsely accused of threatening to blow up his high school and his friends turn against him, an unlikely classmate comes to his aid.</p>
<p><i>Paper Towns</i> by John Green</p>	<p>Winner of the Edgar Award for Best Young Adult Mystery <i>New York Times</i> bestseller <i>USA Today</i> bestseller <i>Publishers Weekly</i> bestseller When Margo Roth Spiegelman beckons Quentin Jacobsen in the middle of the night—dressed like a ninja and plotting an ingenious campaign of revenge—he follows her. Margo’s always planned extravagantly, and, until now, she’s always planned solo. After a lifetime of loving Margo from afar, things are finally looking up for Q . . . until day breaks and she has vanished. Always an enigma, Margo has now become a mystery. But there are clues. And they’re for Q.</p>
<p><i>If I Stay</i> by Gayle Forman</p>	<p>In the blink of an eye everything changes. Seventeen year-old Mia has no memory of the accident; she can only recall what happened afterwards, watching her own damaged body being taken from the wreck. Little by little she struggles to put together the pieces- to figure out what she has lost, what she has left, and the very difficult choice she must make. Heartwrenchingly beautiful, this will change the way you look at life, love, and family. Now a major motion picture starring Chloe Grace Moretz, Mia's story will stay with you for a long, long time.</p>
<p><i>It’s Kind of a Funny Story</i> by Ned Vizzini</p>	<p>Like many ambitious New York City teenagers, Craig Gilner sees entry into Manhattan’s Executive Pre-Professional High School as the ticket to his future. Determined to succeed at life—which means getting into the right high school to get into the right college to get the right job—Craig studies night and day to ace the entrance exam, and does. That’s when things start to get crazy. At his new school, Craig realizes that he isn’t brilliant compared to the other kids; he’s just average, and maybe not even that. He soon sees his once-perfect future crumbling away. The stress becomes unbearable and Craig stops eating and sleeping—until, one night, he nearly kills himself.</p> <p>Ned Vizzini, who himself spent time in a psychiatric hospital, has created a remarkably moving tale about the sometimes unexpected road to happiness. For a novel about depression, it’s definitely a funny story.</p>
<p><i>Miss Peregrine’s Home for Peculiar Children</i> by Ransom Riggs</p>	<p>A New York Times #1 Best Seller Since its summer 2011 release, this debut novel has captivated readers with its cleverly spun tale about a troubled 16-year-old boy whose troubles seem to be connected with a very peculiar home for very peculiar children. The fiction’s vintage sepia photos only enhance the entrancing supernatural atmosphere of this strikingly original production.</p>

<p><i>The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens</i> by Sean Covey</p>	<p>Being a teenager is both wonderful and challenging. In <i>The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens</i>, author Sean Covey applies the timeless principles of the 7 Habits to teens and the tough issues and life-changing decisions they face. In an entertaining style, Covey provides a step-by-step guide to help teens improve self-image, build friendships, resist peer pressure, achieve their goals, get along with their parents, and much more. In addition, this book is stuffed with cartoons, clever ideas, great quotes, and incredible stories about real teens from all over the world. <i>The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens</i> will engage teenagers unlike any other book.</p> <p>An indispensable book for teens, as well as parents, grandparents, and any adult who influences young people, <i>The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens</i> is destined to become the last word on surviving and thriving as a teen and beyond.</p>
<p><i>I Am the Messenger</i> by Markus Zusak</p>	<p>By the author of the #1 <i>New York Times</i> bestseller <i>The Book Thief</i>, this is a cryptic journey filled with laughter, fists, and love.</p> <p>Ed Kennedy is an underage cabdriver without much of a future. He's pathetic at playing cards, hopelessly in love with his best friend, Audrey, and utterly devoted to his coffee-drinking dog, the Doorman. His life is one of peaceful routine and incompetence until he inadvertently stops a bank robbery. Then... Ed Kennedy begins receiving mysterious messages that direct him to addresses where people need help, and he begins getting over his lifelong feeling of worthlessness.</p> <p>This book is a 2005 Michael L. Printz Honor Book and recipient of five starred reviews.</p>
<p><i>This Star Won't Go Out: The Life and Words of Esther Grace Earl</i> by Esther Earl, Lori Earl, Wayne Earl</p>	<p>Sixteen-year-old Esther Grace Earl succumbed to cancer in 2010, but her star continues to beam light to others. Since then, she has inspired a charity organization, numerous events and online communities, and several books. In fact, John Green (who provides an introduction here) dedicated his 2011 bestselling novel <i>The Fault in Our Stars</i> to her memory. This collection of Esther's letters, journals, fiction, and sketches is supplemented with photos and essays by her parents and friends. An uplifting testimony to the power of life.</p>
<p><i>Hidden Girl: The True Story of a Modern-Day Child Slave</i> by Shyima Hall with Lisa Wysocky</p>	<p>An inspiring and compelling memoir from a young woman who lost her childhood to slavery—and built a new life grounded in determination and justice.</p> <p>Shyima Hall was born in Egypt on September 29, 1989, the seventh child of desperately poor parents. When she was eight, her parents sold her into slavery. Shyima then moved two hours away to Egypt's capitol city of Cairo to live with a wealthy family and serve them eighteen hours a day, seven days a week. When she was ten, her captors moved to Orange County, California, and smuggled Shyima with them. Two years later, an anonymous call from a neighbor brought about the end of Shyima's servitude—but her journey to true freedom was far from over.</p>

<p><i>Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting by in America</i> by Barbara Ehrenreich</p>	<p>Millions of Americans work full time, year round, for poverty-level wages. In 1998, Barbara Ehrenreich decided to join them. She was inspired in part by the rhetoric surrounding welfare reform, which promised that a job — any job — can be the ticket to a better life. But how does anyone survive, let alone prosper, on \$6 an hour? To find out, Ehrenreich left her home, took the cheapest lodgings she could find, and accepted whatever jobs she was offered. Moving from Florida to Maine to Minnesota, she worked as a waitress, a hotel maid, a cleaning woman, a nursing-home aide, and a Wal-Mart sales clerk. She lived in trailer parks and crumbling residential motels. Very quickly, she discovered that no job is truly "unskilled," that even the lowliest occupations require exhausting mental and muscular effort. She also learned that one job is not enough; you need at least two if you want to live indoors.</p> <p><i>Nickel and Dimed</i> reveals low-rent America in all its tenacity, anxiety, and surprising generosity — a land of Big Boxes, fast food, and a thousand desperate stratagems for survival. Read it for the smoldering clarity of Ehrenreich's perspective and for a rare view of how "prosperity" looks from the bottom. You will never see anything — from a motel bathroom to a restaurant meal — in quite the same way again.</p>
<p><i>The Freedom Writers Diary: How a Teacher and 150 Teens Used Writing to Change Themselves and the World Around Them</i> by Erin Gruwell, Zlata Filipovic</p>	<p>#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER</p> <p>As an idealistic twenty-three-year-old English teacher at Wilson High School in Long beach, California, Erin Gruwell confronted a room of “unteachable, at-risk” students. One day she intercepted a note with an ugly racial caricature, and angrily declared that this was precisely the sort of thing that led to the Holocaust—only to be met by uncomprehending looks. So she and her students, using the treasured books <i>Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl</i> and <i>Zlata’s Diary: A Child’s Life in Sarajevo</i> as their guides, undertook a life-changing, eye-opening, spirit-raising odyssey against intolerance and misunderstanding. They learned to see the parallels in these books to their own lives, recording their thoughts and feelings in diaries and dubbing themselves the “Freedom Writers” in homage to the civil rights activists “The Freedom Riders.”</p> <p>With powerful entries from the students’ own diaries and a narrative text by Erin Gruwell, <i>The Freedom Writers Diary</i> is an uplifting, unforgettable example of how hard work, courage, and the spirit of determination changed the lives of a teacher and her students.</p>
<p><i>Outcasts United: The Story of a Refugee Soccer Team That Changed a Town</i> by Warren St. John</p>	<p>This young people's version of the adult bestseller, <i>Outcasts United: An American Town, a Refugee Team, and One Woman's Quest to Make a Difference</i>, is a complex and inspirational story about the Fugees, a youth soccer team made up 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 Lumah Mufleh and the entire Fugees soccer team inspired an entire community.</p>

<p><i>Chinese Cinderella</i> by Adeline Yen Mah</p>	<p>A Chinese proverb says, "Falling leaves return to their roots." In <i>Chinese Cinderella</i>, Adeline Yen Mah returns to her roots to tell the story of her painful childhood and her ultimate triumph and courage in the face of despair. Adeline's affluent, powerful family considers her bad luck after her mother dies giving birth to her. Life does not get any easier when her father remarries. She and her siblings are subjected to the disdain of her stepmother, while her stepbrother and stepsister are spoiled. Although Adeline wins prizes at school, they are not enough to compensate for what she really yearns for — the love and understanding of her family.</p> <p>Following the success of the critically acclaimed adult bestseller <i>Falling Leaves</i>, this memoir is a moving telling of the classic Cinderella story, with Adeline Yen Mah providing her own courageous voice.</p>
<p><i>Autobiography of a Face</i> by Lucy Grealy</p>	<p><i>"I spent five years of my life being treated for cancer, but since then I've spent fifteen years being treated for nothing other than looking different from everyone else. It was the pain from that, from feeling ugly, that I always viewed as the great tragedy of my life. The fact that I had cancer seemed minor in comparison."</i></p> <p>At age nine, Lucy Grealy was diagnosed with a potentially terminal cancer. When she returned to school with a third of her jaw removed, she faced the cruel taunts of classmates. In this strikingly candid memoir, Grealy tells her story of great suffering and remarkable strength without sentimentality and with considerable wit. Vividly portraying the pain of peer rejection and the guilty pleasures of wanting to be special, Grealy captures with unique insight what it is like as a child and young adult to be torn between two warring impulses: to feel that more than anything else we want to be loved for who we are, while wishing desperately and secretly to be perfect.</p>
<p><i>Legend</i> by Marie Lu</p>	<p><i>A New York Times Bestseller</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. Full of nonstop action, suspense, and romance, this novel is sure to move readers as much as it thrills.</p>
<p><i>A Death in the Family</i> by James Agee</p>	<p>The story of a family for the first few days after the accidental death of the 35-year-old-husband and father. Pulitzer Prize 04/01/58</p>
<p><i>Girl Who Loved Tom Gordon</i> by Stephen King</p>	<p>A portable radio helps a girl survive after she is lost in the woods of New England. During her nine-day ordeal, Trisha McFarland fights thirst, wasps, and the terrors of the night, all the while keeping up her spirits by listening to music and baseball games.</p>

<p><i>Nineteen Minutes</i> by Jodi Piccoult</p>	<p>Sterling is an ordinary New Hampshire town where nothing ever happens--until the day its complacency is shattered by an act of violence. Josie Cormier, the daughter of the judge sitting on the case, should be the state's best witness, but she can't remember what happened before her very own eyes--or can she? As the trial progresses, fault lines between the high school and the adult community begin to show--destroying the closest of friendships and families. <i>Nineteen Minutes</i> asks what it means to be different in our society, who has the right to judge someone else, and whether anyone is ever really who they seem to be.</p>
<p><i>Basketball Junkie: A Memoir</i> by Chris Herren with Bill Reynolds</p>	<p>According to M. Blais, New York Times bestselling author "Chris Herren's <i>Basketball Junkie</i> is the story of what happens when a town and a family pressure a favorite son to embody their dreams, which turn out to be his nightmare. If a book can evoke both anguish and celebration, this is it. Herren's account of his descent into hell and back show that beyond the bench pressing and the sprints and all the other prep work that help to create an athlete, in the end, character-building is the one drill that really matters."</p>
<p><i>Does the Noise in My Head Bother You? A Rock'n' Roll Memoir</i> by Steven Tyler</p>	<p>In this addictively readable memoir, told in the playful, poetic voice that is uniquely his own, Tyler unabashedly recounts the meteoric rise, fall, and rise of Aerosmith over the last three decades and the music that gives it all meaning. Tyler tells what it's like to be a living legend and the frontman of one of the world's most revered and infamous bands—the debauchery, the money, the notoriety, the fights, the motels and hotels, the elevators, limos, buses and jets, the rehab. He reveals the spiritual side that "gets lost behind the stereotype of the Sex Guy, the Drug Guy, the Demon of Screamin', the Terror of the Tropicana." As dazzling, bold, and out-on-the-edge as the man himself, <i>Does the Noise in My Head Bother You?</i> is an all-access backstage pass into this extraordinary showman's life. www.amazon.com</p>
<p><i>Girl, Interrupted</i> by Susanna Kaysen</p>	<p>In <i>Girl, Interrupted</i> Susanne Kaysen challenges readers to question conventional ideas concerning the mentally ill. In this provocative true story, Kaysen tells of her experiences as an eighteen-year-old patient in a psychiatric hospital in the late 1960s. Diagnosed as having a borderline personality, she was described as being profoundly depressed. Recent activities in her life had included: a relationship with her high school English teacher; attempted suicide; running away from her parent's home to live in a boarding house in Cambridge, MA; and taking up with a boyfriend she describes as troublesome. This intense story chronicles the heart-breaking situation of Kaysen's interrupted girlhood. Deirdre Weedon, <i>Mash Magazine</i></p>
<p><i>Thinking in Pictures: My Life with Autism</i> by Temple Grandin</p>	<p>In this unprecedented book, Grandin delivers a report from the country of autism. Writing from the dual perspectives of a scientist and an autistic person, she tells us how that country is experienced by its inhabitants and how she managed to breach its boundaries to function in the outside world. What emerges in <i>Thinking in Pictures</i> is the document of an extraordinary human being, one who, in gracefully and lucidly bridging the gulf between her condition and our own, sheds light on the riddle of our common identity.</p> <p>The captivating subject of Oliver Sacks' <i>An Anthropologist on Mars</i> gives her personal account of living with autism, and tells how her extraordinary gift of animal empathy has transformed her world. of photos & line drawings.</p>

<p><i>Catalyst</i> by Laurie Halse Anderson</p>	<p>Eighteen-year-old Kate, who sometimes chafes at being a preacher's daughter, finds herself losing control in her senior year as she faces difficult neighbors, the possibility that she may not be accepted by the college of her choice, and an unexpected death.</p>
<p><i>Three Little Words: A Memoir</i> by Ashley-Rhodes-Courter</p>	<p>"The author's ability to form intelligent, open-minded conclusions about her traumatic childhood demonstrates her remarkable control and insight, and although there are plenty of wrenching moments, she succeeds not in attracting pity but in drawing attention to the children who currently share the plight that she herself overcame." <i>Publishers Weekly</i></p>
<p><i>In the Lake of the Woods</i> by Tim O'Brien</p>	<p>The author of <i>The Things They Carried</i> offers a riveting novel of love and mystery. When long-hidden secrets about the atrocities he committed in Vietnam come to light, a candidate for the U.S. Senate retreats with his wife to a lakeside cabin in northern Minnesota. Within days of their arrival, his wife mysteriously vanishes into the watery wilderness.</p>
<p><i>Before I Fall</i> by Lauren Oliver</p>	<p>For popular high school senior Samantha Kingston, February 12—"Cupid Day"—should be one big party, a day of valentines and roses and the privileges that come with being at the top of the social pyramid. And it is...until she dies in a terrible accident that night. However, she still wakes up the next morning. In fact, Sam lives the last day of her life seven times, until she realizes that by making even the slightest changes, she may hold more power than she ever imagined. Named to numerous state reading lists, this novel was also recognized as a Best Book of the Year by Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble, <i>The Daily Beast</i>, NPR, and <i>Publishers Weekly</i>.</p>
<p><i>Just Listen</i> by Sarah Dessen</p>	<p>When Annabel, the youngest of three beautiful sisters, has a bitter falling out with her best friend—the popular and exciting Sophie—she suddenly finds herself isolated and friendless. but then she meets Owen—a loner, passionate about music and his weekly radio show, and always determined to tell the truth. And when they develop a friendship, Annabel is not only introduced to new music but is encouraged to listen to her own inner voice. With Owen's help, can Annabel find the courage to speak out about what exactly happened the night her friendship with Sophie came to a screeching halt?</p>
<p><i>The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time</i> by Mark Haddon</p>	<p>Christopher John Francis Boone knows all the countries of the world and their capitals and every prime number up to 7,057. He relates well to animals but has no understanding of human emotions. He cannot stand to be touched. Although gifted with a superbly logical brain, Christopher is autistic. Everyday interactions and admonishments have little meaning for him. Routine, order and predictability shelter him from the messy, wider world. Then, at fifteen, Christopher's carefully constructed world falls apart when he finds his neighbor's dog, Wellington, impaled on a garden fork, and he is initially blamed for the killing. Christopher decides that he will track down the real killer and turns to his favorite fictional character, the impeccably logical Sherlock Holmes, for inspiration. But the investigation leads him down some unexpected paths and ultimately brings him face to face with the dissolution of his parents' marriage. As he tries to deal with the crisis within his own family, we are drawn into the workings of Christopher's mind. And herein lies the key to the brilliance of Mark Haddon's choice of narrator: The most wrenching of emotional moments are chronicled by a boy who cannot fathom emotion. The effect is dazzling, making for a novel that is deeply funny, poignant, and fascinating in its portrayal of a person whose curse and blessing is a mind that perceives the world literally.</p>

<p><i>The Art of Racing in the Rain</i> by Garth Stein</p>	<p>Enzo knows he is different from other dogs: a philosopher with a nearly human soul (and an obsession with opposable thumbs), he has educated himself by watching television extensively, and by listening very closely to the words of his master, Denny Swift, an up-and-coming race car driver. Through Denny, Enzo has gained tremendous insight into the human condition, and he sees that life, like racing, isn't simply about going fast. Using the techniques needed on the race track, one can successfully navigate all of life's ordeals.</p> <p>On the eve of his death, Enzo takes stock of his life, recalling all that he and his family have been through: the sacrifices Denny has made to succeed professionally; the unexpected loss of Eve, Denny's wife; the three-year battle over their daughter, Zoë, whose maternal grandparents pulled every string to gain custody. In the end, despite what he sees as his own limitations, Enzo comes through heroically to preserve the Swift family, holding in his heart the dream that Denny will become a racing champion with Zoë at his side. Having learned what it takes to be a compassionate and successful person, the wise canine can barely wait until his next lifetime, when he is sure he will return as a man.</p> <p>A heart-wrenching but deeply funny and ultimately uplifting story of family, love, loyalty, and hope, <i>The Art of Racing in the Rain</i> is a beautifully crafted and captivating look at the wonders and absurdities of human life . . . as only a dog could tell it.</p>
<p><i>Thirteen Reasons Why</i> by Jay Asher</p>	<p>Clay Jensen returns home from school to find a strange package with his name on it lying on his porch. Inside he discovers several cassette tapes recorded by Hannah Baker - his classmate and crush - who committed suicide two weeks earlier. Hannah's voice tells him that there are thirteen reasons why she decided to end her life. Clay is one of them. If he listens, he'll find out why. Clay spends the night crisscrossing his town with Hannah as his guide. He becomes a firsthand witness to Hannah's pain, and learns the truth about himself-a truth he never wanted to face.</p> <p>A #1 <i>New York Times</i> and International Bestseller</p>
<p><i>Looking for Alaska</i> by John Green</p>	<p>Before. Miles “Pudge” Halter is done with his safe life at home. His whole life has been one big non-event, and his obsession with famous last words has only made him crave “the Great Perhaps” even more (Francois Rabelais, poet). He heads off to the sometimes crazy and anything-but-boring world of Culver Creek Boarding School, and his life becomes the opposite of safe. Because down the hall is Alaska Young. The gorgeous, clever, funny, sexy, self-destructive, screwed up, and utterly fascinating Alaska Young. She is an event unto herself. She pulls Pudge into her world, launches him into the Great Perhaps, and steals his heart. Then. . . .</p> <p>After. Nothing is ever the same.</p> <p>Winner of the Michael L. Printz Award <i>Los Angeles Times</i> Book Prize Finalist <i>New York Times</i> bestseller</p>

A great way to keep students engaged in reading is to introduce them to books that are part of a series. The following series are popular with students in grades 9-12.

Name of Series	Author(s)
<i>The Hunger Games Trilogy</i>	Suzanne Collins
<i>The Maze Runner Trilogy</i>	James Dashner
<i>The Uglies Series</i>	Scott Westerfeld
<i>Divergent Series</i>	Veronica Roth
<i>Enders Game Series</i>	Orson Scott Card
<i>Alex Rider Series</i>	Anthony Horowitz
<i>Gone Series</i>	Michael Grant

BOOK CHOICE RESOURCES

The following websites provide information on books that students have read and enjoyed. Recommendations from other students often help to spark interest in their peers.

<http://www.scholastic.com/readingcampaign/downloads/src-book-list-all-ages.pdf>

This link takes you to the Scholastic, Inc. summer reading picks for Young Adults.

<http://www.summerreadingnys.org/teens/teens-booklists/>

New York Libraries compiled book lists and reviews to spark interest in teen readers.

This page also provides access to other recommended books lists for further exploration.

<https://youngadultbookreviews.com/>

This site provides lengthy annotations that will pique the reader's curiosity.