



Rising Seventh Grade Summer Reading 2009

Required Reading – a total of four books

- *Blood on the River: James Town 1607* Elisa Carbone
- *The Witch of Blackbird Pond* Elizabeth George Speare

AND

- One of the following books by visiting author, Rodman Philbrick
 - *Freak the Mighty*
 - *Max the Mighty*
 - *The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg*
 - *The Last Book in the Universe*
 - *The Fire Pony*
- and one SC Junior Book Award Nominee for 2009-2010
(See attached list.)

You may also choose other books to read and enjoy. Keep track of your reading with the form attached.

Writing Requirement

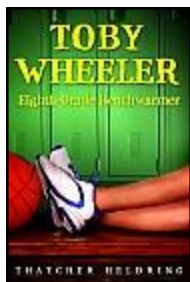
For the books, *Blood on the River* by Elisa Carbone, and *The Witch of Blackbird Pond* by Elizabeth George Speare, please prepare the following information on your computer. Please write using complete sentences.

1. What is the title of the book? Author?
2. Who are the main characters?
3. What important traits do the main characters possess?
4. Who is telling the story (point of view)?
5. Which events in the book are historical? Which are fictitious?
6. What major conflict does the main character face?
7. How does the character resolve the conflict?
8. What message (theme) does the novel have for us today?
9. What are your impressions of this time period?
10. Would you have enjoyed living during this time period? Explain.

Preparing this information will help you participate fully in our discussion of literature when we begin school. After we review the material thoroughly in class, you will be tested on your reading comprehension.

Mrs. Walker (walkerc@cces.org)

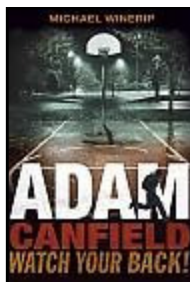
2009-2010 SCASL JBA Nominees



Toby Wheeler: Eighth Grade Benchwarmer

By Thatcher Heldring

When Toby finally decides to join the middle school basketball team, he does not anticipate the changes that will occur in his relationship with his best friend JJ, who is the team's star player, as well as in other areas of his life.



Adam Canfield, Watch Your Back!

By Michael Winerip

A much-welcomed snow day turns into an embarrassing nightmare for middle-grader Adam Canfield when, after being mugged by high school bullies for his snow-shoveling money, he becomes the focus of major media attention just as his co-editors at The Slash are launching a contest to oust bullies at their school.



The Big Field

By Mike Lupica

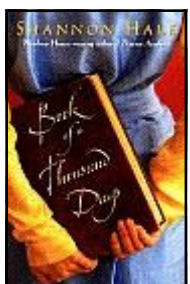
For Hutch, shortstop has always been home. It's where his father once played professionally, before injuries relegated him to watching games on TV instead of playing them. And it's where Hutch himself has always played and starred. Until now. The arrival of Darryl "D-Will" Williams, the top shortstop prospect from Florida since A-Rod, means Hutch is displaced, in more ways than one.



Blue Lipstick: Concrete Poems

By John Grandits

A 15-year-old girl named Jessie voices typical--and not so typical--teenage concerns in this unique, hilarious collection of poems. Her musings about trying out new makeup and hairstyles, playing volleyball and cello, and dealing with her annoying younger brother are never boring or predictable.



Book of a Thousand Days

By Shannon Hale

Fifteen-year-old Dashti, sworn to obey her sixteen-year-old mistress, the Lady Saren, shares Saren's years of punishment locked in a tower, then brings her safely to the lands of her true love, where both must hide who they are as they work as kitchen maids.



The Boy Who Dared

By Susan Campbell Bartoletti

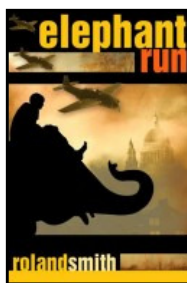
Raised during the rise of the Nazi party, Helmuth believed all that he was taught and so joined the Nazi party with all the pride in the world, yet as the country he once knew began to fall apart and he witnessed so many horrific events unfold, Helmuth found it increasingly difficult to remain both loyal and silent.



Cover-Up: Mystery at the Super Bowl

By John Feinstein

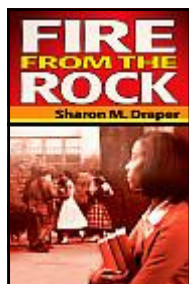
Two teenagers learn that every player on a professional football team--which is supposed to play in the Super Bowl--has failed their drug test and the owner has covered up the results, and now they must find a way to prove it.



Elephant Run

By Roland Smith

Nick's father and others are taken prisoner when his plantation in Burma is invaded by the Japanese in 1941, leaving Nick and his friend Mya to risk their lives in order to free them from the POW camp.



Fire From the Rock

By Sharon Draper

Sylvia Patterson's life suddenly changes with the integration of Little Rock's Central High in 1957 when she is selected to be one of the first black students to attend the previously all white school.



Go Big or Go Home

By Will Hobbs

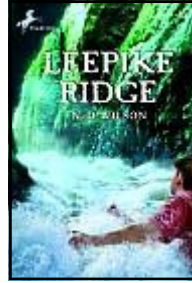
Fourteen-year-old Brady and his cousin Quinn love extreme sports, but nothing could prepare them for the aftermath of Brady's close encounter with a meteorite after it crashes into his Black Hills, South Dakota, bedroom.



If a Tree Falls at Lunch Period

By Gennifer Choldenko

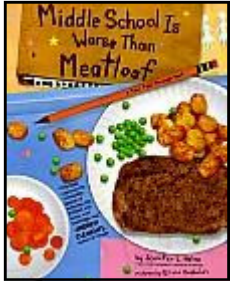
Kirsten and Walk, seventh-graders at an elite private school, describe how race, wealth, weight, and other issues shape their relationships as they and other misfits stand up to a mean but influential classmate.



Leepike Ridge

By Nathan D. Wilson

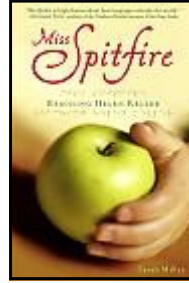
While his widowed mother continues to search for him, eleven-year-old Tom, presumed dead after drifting away down a river, finds himself trapped in a series of underground caves with another survivor and a dog, and pursued by murderous treasure-hunters.



Middle School is Worse than Meatloaf: A Year Told Through Stuff

By Jennifer Holm

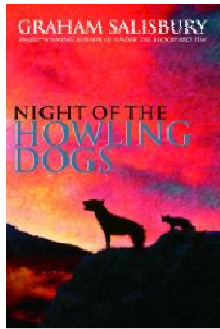
Ginny makes a to do list for her seventh grade year, which includes landing a role in the school play, trying to make friends, ignoring her horoscope, and going to see her grandpa Joe in Florida; but she always seems to come up short in accomplishing any of it.



Miss Spitfire: Reaching Helen Keller

By Sarah Elizabeth Miller

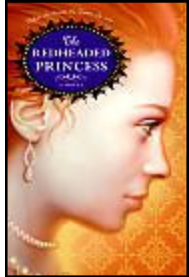
At age twenty-one, partially-blind, lonely but spirited Annie Sullivan travels from Massachusetts to Alabama to try and teach six-year-old Helen Keller, deaf and blind since age two, self-discipline and communication skills. Includes historical notes and timeline.



Night of the Howling Dogs

By Graham Salisbury

Eleven Boy Scouts, their leaders, and some new friends camping at Halape, Hawaii, in 1975, find their survival skills put to the test when a massive earthquake strikes, followed by a tsunami.



The Redheaded Princess: A Novel

By Ann Rinaldi

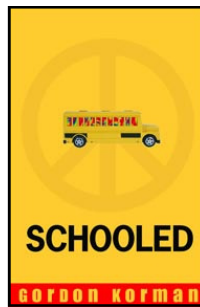
In 1542, nine-year-old Lady Elizabeth lives on an estate near London, striving to get back into the good graces of her father, King Henry VIII, and as the years pass she faces his death and those of other close relatives until she finds herself next in line to ascend the throne of England in 1558.



The Seer of Shadows

By Avi

Photographer Horace Carpetine is commissioned to do a portrait for society matron Mrs. Frederick Von Macht; however, the photos evoke both the image and the ghost of the Von Macht's dead daughter, Eleonora, who has returned to seek vengeance on those who killed her.



Schooled

By Gordon Korman

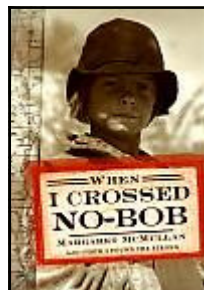
Cap lives in isolation with his grandmother, a former hippie; but when she falls from a tree and breaks her hip, Cap is sent to a foster home where he has his first experience in a public school.



Taken

By Edward Bloor

In 2036 kidnapping rich children has become an industry, but when thirteen-year-old Charity Meyers is taken and held for ransom, she soon discovers that this particular kidnapping is not what it seems.



When I Crossed No-Bob

By Margaret McMullan

Ten years after the Civil War's end, twelve-year-old Addy, abandoned by her parents, is taken from the horrid town of No-Bob by schoolteacher Frank Russell and his bride, but when her father returns to claim her she must find another way to leave her O'Donnell past behind.

