

## Mandatory Summer Reading for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade IB Advanced English 2020 – 2021

Greetings, Future Eighth Grade IB students! Part of the requirements for the IB Program is to complete Summer Reading. Choose ONE of the novels listed below to read for this summer. **A TEST will be given on the second Friday we return to school in August over your book choice. In addition, you may earn up to 10 POINTS EXTRA CREDIT by reading a second novel and completing its test with a score of 90% or better.** In order to receive EXTRA CREDIT, you must take both tests on the same date. \*Students are responsible for obtaining their own novels.

1. Please select ONE novel to read from the following list:

### ***The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton**

A teen gang in rural Oklahoma, the Greasers are perpetually at odds with the Socials, a rival group. When Greasers, Ponyboy and Johnny, get into a brawl that ends in the death of a Social member, the boys are forced to go into hiding. Soon Ponyboy and Johnny, along with the intense Dallas and their other Greaser buddies, must contend with the consequences of their violent lives. While some Greasers try to achieve redemption, others meet tragic ends.

### ***Flowers for Algernon* by Daniel Keyes** (novel NOT short story)

In ***Flowers for Algernon***, the mentally handicapped Charlie Gordon is transformed by a surgery that allows him to become intelligent. The novel explores themes about the cycle of life, the limits of science, and whether knowledge is truly more valuable than happiness.

### ***A Separate Peace* by John Knowles**

Gene Forrester is a quiet, intellectual student at the Devon School in New Hampshire. During the summer session of 1942, he becomes close friends with his daredevil roommate Finny, whose innate charisma consistently allows him to get away with mischief.

### ***Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card**

When hostile aliens called the Buggers attack Earth, only the legendary heroics of Mazer Rackham manage to attain a victory. To prepare for the next attack, Col. Hyrum Graff and his cohorts initiate a military program to find the next Mazer. Recruit Ender Wiggin exhibits an unusual gift for the training, easily mastering all of the challenges thrown at him. Mazer Rackham, himself, takes Ender as a protégé to prepare him for the oncoming war.

### ***A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park**

The girl, Nya, is fetching **water** from a pond that is two hours' walk from her home: she makes two trips to the pond every day. The boy, Salva, becomes one of the "lost boys" of Sudan, refugees who cover the African continent on foot as they search for their families and for a safe place to stay.

2. On the second Friday school resumes in August, you will take a test on the novel of your choosing. It will be counted as a test grade.

Please email me during the summer if you have any questions: [Greene.Charlene.R@muscogee.k12.ga.us](mailto:Greene.Charlene.R@muscogee.k12.ga.us)