



BOYERTOWN AREA MIDDLE SCHOOLS
East
Gilbertsville, PA 19525

West
Boyertown, PA 19512

Dear Parents/Guardians of Incoming Grade 6 Learning Support ELA Students,

Welcome to Middle School! We are excited to have your student join us! We have received some questions about the summer reading requirement and would like to clarify.

The main goal of the summer reading requirement is to have students read. 😊 If your student is interested in a book from the district-issued list, he/she can choose from there, but it is not required. It is fine if your student would prefer to read a book not on the list. We want the student to *enjoy* the book and to be *excited* about reading it! If you would like other book suggestions, we have included a few titles on the back of this letter. Again, please note that your student is free to choose any book to read this summer.

While reading, all students are encouraged to take brief notes, which they should bring to school in the fall. Students will be completing a writing assignment about the book in ELA, giving the teacher an opportunity to see the students' writing skills in the beginning of the year.

One other consideration: If your student is participating in PAWS this summer, the teachers lead the students through the reading of Bridge to Terabithia by Katherine Paterson. This book is on the district-issued list and obviously would satisfy the reading requirement.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the teacher below:

East: Mrs. Emily Edgett at eedgett@boyertownasd.org

West: Ms. Kim Warren at kwarren@boyertownasd.org

Sincerely,

Stephanie L. Landis
Principal, MS West

Andrew M. Maoury
Principal, MS East

OTHER POSSIBLE TITLES FOR INCOMING LS ELA SIXTH GRADERS

- ***Sunny Side Up*** – Jennifer Holm (Lexile 240)
- ***The Titan’s Curse*** – Rick Riordan (Lexile 370)
- ***Smile*** – Raina Telgemeier (Lexile 410)
- ***They Cage the Animals at Night*** – Jennings Burch (Lexile 450)
- ***Crash*** – Jerry Spinelli (Lexile 560)
- ***Al Capone Does My Shirts*** – Gennifer Choldenko (Lexile 600)

Additional Selections (Descriptions below)

- ***Holes*** by Louis Sachar (Lexile 660)
- ***Tangerine*** by Edward Bloor (Lexile 680)

Special Considerations: The books underlined above are available on audio from my classroom library with limited availability. Please contact me to schedule a pick-up if you are interested.

Holes by Louis Sachar (Lexile 660)

Stanley Yelnats is under a curse. A curse that began with his no-good-dirty-rotten-pig-stealing-great-great-grandfather and has since followed generations of Yelnatses. Now Stanley has been unjustly sent to a boys’ detention center, Camp Green Lake, where the boys build character by spending all day, every day digging holes exactly five feet wide and five feet deep. There is no lake at Camp Green Lake. But there are an awful lot of holes.

It doesn’t take long for Stanley to realize there’s more than character improvement going on at Camp Green Lake. The boys are digging holes because the warden is looking for something. But what could be buried under a dried-up lake? Stanley tries to dig up the truth in this inventive and darkly humorous tale of crime and punishment—and redemption

Tangerine by Edward Bloor (Lexile 680)

Paul Fisher sees the world from behind glasses so thick he looks like a bug-eyed alien. But he’s not so blind that he can’t see there are some *very* unusual things about his family’s new home in Tangerine County, Florida. Where else does a sinkhole swallow the local school, fire burn underground for years, and lightning strike at the same time every day?

The chaos is compounded by constant harassment from his football–star brother and adjusting to life in Tangerine isn’t easy for Paul—until he joins the soccer team at his middle school. With the help of his new teammates, Paul begins to discover what lies beneath the surface of his strange new hometown. And he also gains the courage to face up to some secrets his family has been keeping from him for far too long. In Tangerine, it seems, *anything* is possible.