

Hello 8th graders,

Happy almost summer!!!! Let's celebrate with some reading! (hehe...am I the only one who thinks that's awesome?!)

Every single one of you has grown and learned much this school year. The last thing we, your parents and I, want to take place is for you to lose that growth. According to study.com, reading over the summer will help you retain learning and keep critical thinking skills needed for the next school year. Reading over the summer can give growth in reading proficiency, and can increase your progress in vocabulary, spelling, AND math. All of these things will help your transition into 8th grade in August, giving you the opportunity for higher success. In the article "The importance of reading over the summer holidays", reading over the summer is equated to doing physical exercise. We exercise to keep our bodies healthy and strong. We read to keep our brains active and healthy as well. Therefore, you have summer reading YAY!!! Okay, okay, maybe you're not that excited, but it's going to be alright. If you give it a chance, you may even like one of the books you read. (Did you guys notice the ACE paragraph above!?)

Your assignment:

- ☐ **Read the novel *Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton**
- ☐ Answer the question for each chapter. The questions can be found on the following page as well as on my website linked to the bottom of my email.
- ☐ Watch the movie 😊 and write a paragraph to share the first week of school. Your paragraph should answer the following question: **How true to the novel did the movie stay? Why do you think the producers made the decisions they did?**
- ☐ Read a 2nd novel or book of your choice and be ready to share the book and a review of the book the first week of school. This book can be a fiction story, a graphic novel, a biography, sports book, or even news/informational articles following a specific current event or person.

The book *The Outsiders* will be the novel we start the year off with, reviewing and learning standards and skills. We will not be reading the novel in class but will be working with the novel as a whole as well as with small sections of the novel in close reads. It is imperative that you read it over the summer so you start off the year strong and are able to participate in and complete all assignments. I have a class set of this novel so you do not have to purchase a copy of the book unless you want to. You can check it out from the library, read it on Kindle or a similar app, or check it out from me the week of finals. **If you choose to check it out from me, you MUST return it in August or you will be charged for it.** You can choose to either read this book and fill in the dialectical journal at the beginning of the summer or wait until the second half so it is fresh in your mind when school starts.

Please feel free to email me with any questions. I will be checking my email regularly and will get back to you. Remember, the point of this is to continue reading so you don't lose skills. I picked a book that isn't difficult and should be somewhat entertaining. Give it a shot.