

March 10, 2009

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Just as athletes and musicians develop their skills over time, so do readers. According to the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Commission on Reading (May 2004), a reader's skill continues to develop throughout life through reading diverse texts written for a wide variety of purposes. To encourage students to become lifelong readers, The Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School community is pleased to announce the fourth year of our school-wide summer reading program. Our program goals include: encouraging all students to read for pleasure, offering students their choice of books, creating community within the school, and facilitating book discussion groups, which substantially help readers to understand and learn.

To encourage students to read for pleasure, our Summer Reading Coordinator Meaghan McCauley created a booklist based on her extensive research of young adult, popular, and classic novels, as well as suggestions from the faculty and student body. The list represents a wide variety of reading levels and genres. **Some of the books contain mature content such as explicit language and/or graphic descriptions that may make them more appropriate choices for older, more mature students.** An annotated list will be provided and may be accessed through the D-Y website and at the DYRHS, Mattacheese, and Wixon libraries.

Beginning on March 30, every student who will be attending D-Y High school next year will choose a book to read over the summer. Students have until Monday, May 11 to make their selection; however, book groups will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis, so please encourage your student(s) to sign-up early for best selection. (Please note that this book will supplement summer reading requirements already in place for honors and AP students). Books will be available at local libraries and at area bookstores. In September, students will participate in discussion groups facilitated by staff members of the D-Y reading community.

Please support our school community by reviewing the book choices with your student and signing the permission form which will be given to your student on 3/30, indicating you approve your child's choice. Forms will also be available at: <http://www.dy-regional.k12.ma.us/dyrsd/dyh.htm>. Completed sign-up forms should be returned to his/her homeroom advisor.

Sincerely,

Jennifer L. Schaefer
English Department Chair