

**McCullough Language Arts**  
**Summer Reading Program 2020**

Dear Incoming Students,

In Conroe ISD, we encourage all students to read over the summer in order to enrich learning and provoke thought. Summer reading strengthens reading skills, increases academic achievement, fosters a love for reading, and empowers students to become life-long learners.

Additionally, students are expected to engage in summer reading as it prepares students for the upcoming school year and creates an initial common framework for classroom discussion and instruction.

**The Assignment:** Read and annotate one book from the attached [2018 Texas Lone Star Reading List](#). Students are encouraged to read more than one book over the summer, but only one is required for this assignment.

**Required for all incoming 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade McCullough students, both level and honors.**

**Annotating:** Annotating a text is like having a conversation with a book—it allows the active reader to ask questions, comment on meaning, and mark events and passages he or she wants to revisit.

- Highlight or underline important passages, words, or descriptions, and write a note as to why you identified the passage, words, or descriptions.
- Note and underline new characters when they are introduced.
- Comment on words, images, and details that seem to form a pattern throughout the novel.
- Highlight passages that you think might be symbolic and record your comments in the margins.
- Write notes in the margins (your reaction to what happens, predictions, characterizations, questions you might have for the author or about the story, etc.).
- Note interesting techniques the author used or questions you have for the author.

Your annotations, or notes, will be used to guide your understanding and participation in discussions about theme, literary devices, and author's choices.

Sincerely,

McCullough Language Arts Department

# 2018 Texas Lone Star Reading List



- Beanstalker and Other Hilarious Scarytales**, by Kiersten White, illustrated by Karl Kwasny (Scholastic Press, an imprint of Scholastic, Inc)
- Between Two Skies**, by Joanne O'Sullivan (Candlewick Press)
- The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora**, by Pablo Cartaya (Viking Books, an imprint of Penguin Random House LLC)
- Four-Four-Two** by Dean Hughes (Atheneum, an imprint of Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing Division)
- Frogkisser!** by Garth Nix (Scholastic Press, an imprint of Scholastic, Inc)
- Heartless** by Marissa Meyer (Feiwel and Friends, an imprint of Macmillan)
- Impyrium** by Henry H. Neff (HarperCollins Children's Books, a division of HarperCollins Publishers)
- The Inquisitor's Tale: Or, The Three Magical Children and Their Holy Dog** by Adam Gidwitz, illustrated by Hatem Aly (Dutton Children's Books, Penguin Young Readers Group, an imprint of Penguin Random House LLC)
- Last Day on Mars** by Kevin Emerson (Walden Pond Press, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers)
- Miles Morales: Spider-Man** by Jason Reynolds (Marvel Press, an imprint of Disney Book Group)
- Piecing Me Together** by Renee Watson (Bloomsbury Children's Books)
- Refugee** by Alan Gratz (Scholastic Press, an imprint of Scholastic Inc)
- Scythe** by Neal Shusterman (Simon & Schuster BFYR, an imprint of Simon & Schuster)
- Short** by Holly Goldberg Sloan (Dial Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Penguin Random House)
- The Unbeatable Squirrel Girl: Squirrel Meets World** by Shannon Hale & Dean Hale (Marvel Press, an imprint of Disney Book Group)
- The Van Gogh Deception** by Deron Hicks (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company)
- Warcross** by Marie Lu (G.P. Putnam's Sons, an imprint of Penguin Random House LLC)
- Well, That Was Awkward** by Rachel Vail (Viking Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Penguin Random House LLC)
- Wild Bird** by Wendelin Van Draanen (Alfred A. Knopf, an imprint of Random House Children's Books, a division of Penguin Random House LLC)
- York: The Shadow Cipher**, by Laura Ruby, illustrated by Dave Stevenson (Walden Pond Press, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers)

The Texas Lone Star list is a recommended reading list developed by public and school librarians from the Young Adult Round Table. The purpose of the list is to encourage students in grades 6, 7, or 8 to explore a variety of current books. The Lone Star list is intended for recreational reading, not to support a specific curriculum. Due to the diversity of this age range, Texas librarians should purchase titles on this list according to their individual collection policies. The annotated 2018 Lone Star Reading List, past Lone Star Reading selections, and additional resources are available at:

<https://txla.org/wpcontent/uploads/2019/02/2018LoneStarAnnotated.pdf>