

Dear Incoming McCullough 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.

Originally, our summer reading requirement asked all incoming 7th and 8th grade McCullough students to select and read any book of their choosing from the 2018 Lone Star Reading List included below. We still encourage students to read a book from this list, however we recognize that it may not be feasible this year due to the current financial state. We are not requiring the purchase of any books and students will not be penalized if they are unable to read a book from the 2018 Lone Star List. Instead, we simply encourage students, if at all possible, to continue reading anything that is accessible.

Further, in light of the current public health situation and modified learning environment, we will not be requiring students to complete any assignment or project over summer reading for the 2020-2021 school year.

Our school district has provided us with a list of a number of ways to access free books online.

Apps found in the CISD SSO Portal:

- Sora
 - Free access to a variety of e-books and audiobooks.
- Destiny Discover
 - Check out e-books and audiobooks from our campus library

Other websites with free resources:

- Montgomery County Public Library
 - E-books and audiobooks: <https://montgomerycountymd.libguides.com/elibrary>
 - Get a digital library card: <https://montgomerycountymd.gov/library/services/registration.html>
- Open Library
 - Create a free account: <https://openlibrary.org/account/create>
 - Popular titles: <https://bit.ly/2XBEwyP>
- Project Gutenberg
 - Free e-books: http://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/main_page
 - Top 100 most popular: <http://www.gutenberg.org/browse/scores/top>
- Audible Stories
 - Free audiobooks: <https://stories.audible.com>

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>