Rochambeau & Memorial Middle Schools
Grades 7 & 8
2014
Summer Reading Suggestions
Dear Students Entering Seventh and Eighth Grade:

Welcome to Rochambeau & Memorial Middle Schools’ 2014 summer reading program. One of our exciting school goals is to help you develop into lifelong readers. Reading enriches life in so many ways. It helps you create ideas, imagine possibilities, challenge positions, learn information, and connect to a variety of people and places. Of course it is also a lot of fun. This summer, in between camp and hanging out, your goal is to read at least three books. The following list has some great suggestions, but you don’t need to read books from this list. Feel free to browse a book store or library and find your own choices. There are also suggested websites inside this brochure to help you locate a great book. In the fall, we will be asking you to do two things:

1. Share a list of the books you most enjoyed reading.
2. Participate in a Summer Reading activity in your English class. This may be in the form of a discussion or book review.

Ultimately we hope that you discuss your summer reading books with family members and friends and create an important place in your life for reading.

Sincerely,
Rochambeau & Memorial’s Staff of Readers

On the web

Young adult book lists ranging from Quick Picks for the Reluctant Young Reader to Popular Paperbacks.
Guysread.com Web-based literacy program for boys. Books guys want to read.
Nutmeg Book Award, www.nutmegaward.org Encourages children grades 4-8 to read quality literature.

Discovery: the Real Stuff

Amelia Lost: The Life & Disappearance of Amelia Earhart Candace Fleming
Unique nonfiction, alternating between Amelia’s life and the exhaustive search for both her and her missing plane. With incredible photos, maps, and hand written notes from Amelia herself.

Becoming Ben Franklin Russell Freedman
A riveting story of how a rebellious apprentice became an American icon.

Big Ideas that Changed the World Isabel Thomas
Read & marvel at the stories behind some of the world’s most amazing discoveries that have made a sensation, from the first wheel to satellite navigation, the Model T Ford, & Edison’s light bulb.

Courage Has No Color Tanya Lee Stone
The True Story of the Triple Nickles: America’s First Black Paratroopers.

Leon’s Story Leon Walter Tillage
What price do you put on a human life? This is one man’s story, though one shared by thousands of African Americans across the United States before, during, and after the Civil Rights Movement.

The New Way Things Work David Macaulay
How do things work? This illustrated, humorous, easy-to-understand book richly shows how everything from a toilet to a fire extinguisher works.

Trapped: How the World Rescued 33 Miners Marc Aronson
What could have been a terrible tragedy became an amazing story of survival.
Authors of Adventure

Trapped

Michael Northrop

The day the blizzard started, no one knew that it was going to keep snowing for a week and that it would become not just a matter of keeping warm, but of staying alive. . .

James Patterson

Maximum Ride series: Angel Experiment, School's Out—Forever, Saving the World, Final Warning, Max, Fang, Angel and Nevermore.

Gary Paulsen

Adventures of different times: Woods Runner, Tracker, Dogsong, and Harris and Me.
A touch of autobiography: Woodsong and Guts.

Rick Riordan

The Kane Chronicles trilogy: The Red Pyramid, The Throne of Fire & The Serpent's Shadow.

Roland Smith

Life on the run: Zach's Lie, Jack's Run (sequel).
Uncovering Secrets: Cryptid Hunters, Tentacles, Chupacabra (sequel).
Storm Runners series: Storm Runners, The Surge and Eruption.
Other Novels: The Captain's Dog, Elephant Run, Peak—a 2010 featured book and Sasquatch.

Fantasy

Beyonders—a trilogy

Brandon Mull

Written by a former Rochambeau student and the author of the Fablehaven series!
An addictive blend of fantasy, humor, and heroic quest.
Enjoy A World Without Heroes, Seeds of Rebellion and Chasing the Prophecy.

Fingertips of Duncan Dorfman—2014 Nutmeg Nominee

Meg Wolitzer

A Scrabble game brings together three teens, each struggling with his/her own differences.

The Hypnotists—a new series

Gordon Korman

Jackson has always been persuasive, but he doesn't know that he's descended from the two most powerful hypnotist bloodlines on the planet. Soon he will have to find a way to use his powers to save his friends, his parents, and his government. Also Memory Maze—July 29, 2014 publication.

Lockwood & Co. The Screaming Staircase

The British Isles have become plagued with ghostly Visitors, and three teens have formed a company to help rid them from the country—for a fee. Also The Whispering Skull—September 2014

Michael Vey: The Prisoner of Cell 25—a Series

Richard Paul Evans

Michael and Taylor have electric powers. As they try and figure out how they ended up with these, they are discovered by a group who wants to control the teens and, through them, the world.

Mind Games

Kiersten White

Fia and Annie have unique talents—Fia can perceive what people will do and Annie has visions of the past and future... and now someone is trying to manipulate them. Also enjoy Perfect Lies.

Spirit and Dust

Rosemary Clement-Moore

Since Daisy can speak to the dead, she is kidnapped and forced to help a mob-boss find his missing daughter. Mystery, romance and humor combined. Also enjoy Texas Gothic.
**Great Middle School Stories of Growing Up**

**Divergent—a series and 2014 Nutmeg Nominee**  
Veronica Roth  
In Beatrice’s dystopian Chicago world, society is divided into five factions, each dedicated to the cultivation of a particular virtue. On an appointed day each year, all sixteen-year-olds must select the faction to which they will devote the rest of their lives. For Beatrice, the decision is between staying with her family and being who she really is—she can’t do both. *Also enjoy Insurgent and Allegiant.*

**The Great Wall of Lucy Wu—Nutmeg Nominee**  
Wendy Wan-Long Shang  
Lucy expects sixth grade to be great, but her parents put a few glitches into her plans. Lucy’s great-aunt from China has just become her new roommate and Lucy must attend Chinese school on Saturdays—will she ever get to live her life as she wishes?

**I'll Be There—2014 Nutmeg Nominee**  
Holly Goldberg Sloan  
Sam and his brother have spent their lives uprooted by their unstable father. As soon as they find a family who welcomes them, tragedy strikes and they are left fighting for survival, wondering if they will ever find a place where they can belong.

**Mindblind—2014 Nutmeg Nominee**  
Jennifer Roy  
People say Nathaniel is a genius, but according to a book he once read, a true genius uses his talent to make a contribution to the world. Nathaniel takes the definition literally and begins his quest for genius status.

**Now is the Time for Running—2014 Nutmeg Nominee**  
Michael Williams  
Deo and his friends play soccer in the dusty fields of Zimbabwe on a day like any other...until the soldiers arrive and Deo and his brother are forced to run for their lives, fleeing the wreckage of their village for the distant promise of a safe haven in South Africa. Along the way, they face the prejudice and poverty that greet refugees everywhere, but Deo eventually finds hope on the World Cup street soccer team—a possible ticket out of extreme hardship to a new life.

**Okay for Now—2014 Nutmeg Nominee, 2013 Featured Book**  
Gary Schmidt  
As Doug struggles to be more than the “skinny thug” that his teachers and the police think he is, he finds an unlikely ally in Lil Spicer. In Lil, Doug finds the strength to endure an abusive father, the suspicions of a whole town, and the return of his oldest brother, forever scarred, from Vietnam.

**Out of My Mind—2014 Nutmeg Winner**  
Sharon Draper  
Melody is not like most people. She cannot walk or talk, but she has a photographic memory; she is smarter than most of the adults who try to diagnose her and smarter than her classmates in her integrated classroom—the same classmates who dismiss her as mentally challenged because she cannot tell them otherwise. But Melody refuses to be defined by her cerebral palsy. And she is determined to let everyone know it...somehow.

**Page by Paige—2014 Nutmeg Nominee**  
Laura Lee Gulledge  
Paige just moved to New York with her family, and she is having trouble adjusting to the big city. In the pages of her sketch book, she tries to make sense of her new life, including trying out her secret identity as an artist.

**This is What Happy Looks Like**  
Jennifer Smith  
When teenage movie star Graham Larkin accidentally sends small town girl Ellie O'Neill an email about his pet pig, the two seventeen-year-olds strike up a witty and unforgettable correspondence...can a star as famous as Graham really start a relationship with an ordinary girl like Ellie? And why does Ellie want to avoid the media's spotlight at all costs?

**Wild Girl—2014 Nutmeg Nominee**  
Patricia Reilly-Giff  
Twelve-year-old Lidie must leave her beloved home in Brazil for a new life in New York. She reunites with her older brother Pai who left shortly after Mamae died five years earlier. Lidie’s father and Rafael train race horses for a wealthy benefactor. Lidie meets a filly named Wild Girl and connects—their lives parallel as they are both in an unfamiliar, harsh environment. But riding Wild Girl proves to be the greatest connection of all.
Reading in Fun Formats

Addie on the Inside
Addie's not so sure anymore about who she is. It seems her tough exterior is just a little too tough and that doesn't help her deal with the turmoil she feels on the inside as she faces the pains of growing up. Told in elegant, accessible verse.

Knucklehead
This short, sweet autobiography of the author covers growing up with five brothers, baseball, fire, and peeing. Using short chapters and a scrapbook format, it will definitely make you laugh.

Who Done It?
An anthology of alibis—80 YA authors, and suspects in the murder of Herman Mildew, share their alibis...but they are all liars and have something to hide...

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Inspired by True Life Experiences

All of the Above
James, Rhondell, Sharice, and Marcel attend the same inner-city school. Their teacher, Mr. Collins, challenges these diverse students to build the world's biggest Sierpinski tetrahedron in an after-school club. Based on a true story.

Guys Write series

Nine Days
Based on a true story—Washington D.C. classmates Ethan and Ti-Anna have just 9 days to find her kidnapped father...

They Cage the Animals at Night—a 2010 featured book
This book is a powerful and moving true story of a child that finds himself in and out of orphanages, institutions, and foster homes over a four year period while his mother was in and out of hospitals battling physical and mental illness.

Tillie Pierce
Biography of a teen who thought she was getting farther from the battle and ended up tending to the wounded at the edge of the Civil War's Battle of Gettysburg.
**Exciting Sports Authors**

**The Final Four—2015 Nutmeg Nominee**

Paul Volponi

It's the semifinal game of March Madness—as the teams race to find victory, the stories of how each player arrived there are revealed.

**Million Dollar Shot**

Dan Gutman

Eddie Ball lives in a cramped trailer and dreams of moving to a "regular house." Eddie enters his friend Annie's poems in a poetry contest and gets a chance to sink a foul shot during halftime at the first game of the NBA finals for a million-dollar prize. Can he make the basket?

**One Handed Catch**

M.J. Auch

Losing a hand doesn't mean Norm loses his dreams. It just means it will take hard work and humor to succeed at everything from everyday tasks to playing baseball.

**Pop—a 2011 featured book**

Gordon Korman

Marcus is new in town and spends his summer practicing football alone at a local park, hoping to meet someone from the high school team. Instead, he meets an eccentric middle-aged man who teaches him more about football, tackling, and the art of the "pop" than he could have imagined, but this new friendship is more complicated than it first seems.

**Throwing Strikes: The Quest for the Perfect Knuckleball.**

An inspiring true story about one of the most respected pitchers in the game—R.A. is proof that with hard work and devotion, anyone can overcome whatever life throws at him.

**Tim Green**

**Football Genius Series:** Football Genius, Football Hero, Football Champ, The Big Time, Deep Zone and Perfect Season.

**Baseball Great Series:** Baseball Great, Best of the Best, Pinch Hit and Rivals.

**Other Novels:** Unstoppable, Pinch Hit, Force Out and New Kid.

**Mike Lupica**

**Game Changers Series:** Game Changers, Play Makers, and Heavy Hitters.

**Comeback Kid Series:** Two-Minute Drill, Hot Hand, Safe at Home, Long Shot and Shoot Out.

**Other Novels:** Travel Team, Summer Ball (sequel), True Legend, Hero, Underdogs, Million-Dollar Throw, Batboy, Miracle on 49th Street, The Big Field and QB1.

**Authors of Mystery**

**Peter Abrahams**

**Echo Falls Mystery series:** Down the Rabbit Hole, Behind the Curtain and Into the Dark.

**Eric Berlin**


**Mary Downing Hahn**

**Closed for the Season—2014 Nutmeg Nominee,** Deep Dark & Dangerous & The Old Willis Place.

**Joan Lowery Nixon**

**Nightmare, The Kidnapping of Christina Lattimore, The other Side of Dark,** and many more!

**Clockwork Scarab—a series**

Colleen Gleason

The first book of the new Stoker & Homes series. When you're the sister of Bram and the niece of Sherlock, vampire hunting and mystery solving are in your blood. And when two society girls go missing, there's no one more qualified to investigate.
Science Fiction—Will life look like this in the future?

A Corner of White  Jaclyn Moriarty
A tale of missing persons. Madeleine and her mother have run away from their former life; Elliot is in search of his father who disappeared the night his uncle was found dead. And as their mysteries unravel greater mysteries unfold...

Double Identity—a 2011 featured book  Margaret Haddix
What would you do if your parents dropped you off in the middle of the night, at an unknown aunt’s house, in an unknown town, where everyone you met looked at you as if they just saw a ghost?

The Eleventh Plague  Jeff Hirsch
In the aftermath of a war, America’s landscape has been ravaged and two-thirds of the population left dead from a vicious strain of influenza. Fifteen-year-old Stephen Quinn and his family were among the few that survived and became salvagers, roaming the country in search of material to trade. When Stephen and a new friend play a prank that goes horribly wrong, chaos erupts, and they find themselves in the midst of a battle that will change their lives forever.

Ender’s Game  Orson Scott Card
A futuristic tale involving aliens, the Internet, and an orbiting battle station ringing true even today as is it is first and foremost a tale of humanity; a tale of a boy struggling to grow up into someone he can respect while living in an environment stripped of choices.

The Eye of Minds—Mortality Doctrine, Book 1  James Dashner
Michael is a gamer. And like most gamers, he almost spends more time on the VirtNet than in the actual world. The VirtNet offers total mind and body immersion, and it’s addictive. And the more hacking skills you have, the more fun. Why bother following the rules when most of them are dumb, anyway? Book 2, The Rule of Thoughts, August 2014 Publication.

The Fifth Wave—a series  Rick Yancey
Cassie is one of the very few people left alive on Earth. Aliens sent waves of destructive forces to eradicate humans and Cassie must now fight back. A compelling story full of violent twists and turns, along with nonstop action. Book 2, The Infinite Sea, September 16, 2014 Publication.

I am Number Four: The Lost Files series  Pittacus Lore
A breathless page-turner that will have readers rooting for the teen alien who must unleash his fire power to save himself, his human friends, and the planet. Also enjoy The Power of Six, The Rise of Nine and The Fall of Five.

Insignia—2015 Nutmeg Nominee  S.J. Kincaid
An elite military academy recruits Tom Raines to train to become a soldier in outer space, and he can’t believe his good fortune. As his training begins, though, Tom finds he might have to sacrifice more than he’d thought in order to succeed.

Life As We Knew It—a 2010 featured book  Susan Beth Pfeffer
Sixteen-year-old Miranda doesn’t give a second thought to the news of a meteor speeding towards the moon, until it hits. Life as she knew it will never return. Also enjoy the dead and the gone, This World We Live In and The Shade of the Moon.

Matched—2014 Nutmeg Nominee  Ally Condie
Cassia Reyes is a model student, daughter, and citizen. The Society has everything planned for her and it is functioning perfectly—but Cassia begins to doubt the Society’s infallibility and is faced with an impossible choice: between the only life she’s known and a path that no one else has dared to follow. Also enjoy Crossed and Reached.

W.A.R.P.—The Reluctant Assassin, Book 1  Eoin Coffer
From the author of Artemis Fowl: Seventeen-year-old FBI agent Chevron Savano thought her time in London would be an exercise in boredom, but between dead scientists, scrappy would-be assassins, and a malevolent Victorian illusionist, boredom may be the least of her worries. Book 2, The Hangman’s Revolution, June 24, 2014 Publication.
The Auslander  
Paul Dowswell
When Peter's parents are killed, he is sent to an orphanage in Warsaw, Poland. With his blond hair and blue eyes, he looks just like the boy on the Hitler Youth poster. The Nazis decide he is racially valuable. Indeed, a prominent German family is pleased to adopt such a fine Aryan specimen into their household. But despite his new “family,” Peter feels like a foreigner—an ausländer—and he is forming his own ideas about what he sees and what he's told. He doesn't want to be a Nazi. So he takes a risk—the most dangerous one he could possibly choose in 1942 Berlin...

Candy Bomber: The Story of the Berlin Airlift's “Chocolate Pilot”  
Michael Tunnell

City of Orphans—2014 Nutmeg Nominee, 2013 Featured Book  
Avi
A look into the world of Manhattan, New York, 1893—dramatic contrasts of the Mak family's tenement existence, the city's infamous prison, and the splendor of the Waldorf, come together to create a terrifically exciting read.

Home of the Brave  
Katherine Applegate
Kek has traveled from his family home in Africa to a new life in the U.S. As Kek awaits word of his mother’s fate, he weathered the tough Minnesota winter by finding warmth in friendships, strength in his memories, and belief in his new country - America.

Lincoln's Grave Robbers  
Steve Sheinkin
The plan: grab Lincoln's body from its Springfield tomb, stash it in the sand dunes near Lake Michigan, and demand, as a ransom, the release of Ben Boyd—and $200,000 in cash. Follow the story of the conspirators, the Secret Service agents on their trail, and the undercover agent moving back and forth between the two groups.

Lions of Little Rock—2014 Nutmeg Nominee, 2013 Featured Book  
Kristen Levine
In Little Rock, Arkansas 1958 politics rage over integrating schools. Marlee, 13, is a math whiz, but terrified to speak in public. Then a new girl, Lizzie, encourages Marlee to do an oral presentation with her—until Lizzie is thrown out of school when the town discovers she is a light-skinned black passing for white. Marlee and Lizzie meet secretly until it becomes too dangerous...

One Came Home  
Amy Timberlake
Wisconsin, in 1871, 13-year-old Georgie's mother identifies bits of a body belonging to her oldest daughter, Agatha, but Georgie is not convinced. The blue-green dress on the corpse may have belonged to her sister, but what does that really prove?

One Crazy Summer  
Rita Williams-Garcia
Set during a pivotal moment in African American history, this vibrant novel shows the subtle ways that political movements affect personal lives. Also Enjoy P.S. Be Eleven

The Red Necklace  
Sally Gardner
The story of a Gypsy boy and the dwarf who raised him—caught up in the drama on and off the Paris stage. Can they save the lovely Sido from her heartless father and the chaotic bloodbath of the French Revolution?

The Year of Goodbyes  
Debbie Levy
Jutta was one of the lucky ones—a 12-year-old Jewish girl who immigrated to America in 1938, escaping the Nazi violence in Europe. She took with her an autograph book, filled with memories of friends and relatives to whom she'd have to say goodbye.

Cover Art by Molly F.