

# Winslow Township Middle School

## Summer Reading Program For Students Entering 7th through 8th Grade

### Summer 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Research tells us that students need to read during the summer to maintain their independent reading levels. This summer all middle school students are being given the option of reading one of two books from their respective grade level. The book choices are listed below. Each student will be responsible for acquiring the book on their own.

We know that when you read a good book, you can't wait to tell everyone about it! Therefore, as you read this summer, here are some ways to show what you know about the book you read.

Review the Tic-Tac-Toe Choice Menu and complete a minimum of three boxes. The center box, #5, is required. The other boxes are up to you. If you really want to be challenged, do as many of the other boxes as you can before school starts in September! We can't wait to see and hear all about it when you return to school.

#### Novel Choices

7th Grade	8th Grade
<p><b><i>Ghost</i> Author: Reynolds, Jason</b> 730L Summary: Young Castle Cranshaw, Ghost, discovers something about himself the night his father shoots at him and his mother: He can run fast. When Coach Brody puts him on the track team, Ghost finds a community he never expected, one that includes different kinds of kids, some with stories like his own, all ready to be there for each other.</p>	<p><b><i>The Crossover</i> Author: Alexander, Kwame</b> 750L Summary: Josh and his twin brother Jordan live for basketball and plan to play at rival colleges. Their mother is tough but fair with the boys, but she tries in vain to persuade their father to make healthier choices. An ex-player whose pro dreams faded after an injury, he lives through the boys' achievements while wolfing down Krispy Kremes. One crisis leads to another, and soon the family is mourning an irreplaceable loss.</p>
<p><b><i>The Wednesday Wars</i> Author: Schmidt, Gary D.</b> 990L Summary: A wonderfully witty and compelling novel about a teenage boy's mishaps and adventures over the course of the 1967-68 school year. Holling Hoodhood, a seventh-grader at Camillo Junior High, who must spend Wednesday afternoons with his teacher, Mrs. Baker, while the rest of the class has religious instruction. Mrs. Baker doesn't like Holling--he's sure of it. Why else would she make him read the plays of William Shakespeare outside of class?</p>	<p><b><i>Hatchet</i> Author: Paulsen, Gary</b> 1020L Summary: On a trip to visit his father, 13-year-old Brian is the sole survivor of a plane crash in the Canadian wilderness. With only the clothes on his back and a hatchet he received as a parting gift from his mother, Brian begins to shape a life for himself in the wild.</p>

## Tic-Tac-Toe Choice Menu: Summer Reading Winslow Township Middle School

### Directions:

**Start with box number 5** and then select two other boxes to make tic-tac-toe. You can go up and down, diagonal, or across.

<p><b>1</b> Create a <b>fictional interview video</b> with the protagonist or antagonist where you play the character and dress the part. Write a complete script and be sure to include specific details about the character-based upon information from the novel. The video should be at least 2 minutes long.</p>	<p><b>2</b> Create four <b>character trading cards</b>. Cards may be completed digitally or using any other method such as paper or cardstock. Each card must include the character's name, an image, and at least five characteristics for that character.</p>	<p><b>3</b> <b>Write a diary entry</b> from the point of view of one of the main characters. It can be written before, during, or after the book's events. The character's thoughts and feelings are very important in a diary.</p>
<p><b>4</b> Create a <b>timeline</b> of events from your novel. Include important dates, character introductions, conflicts and resolution, and images/pictures to represent each event.</p>	<p><b>5</b> <b>Write a review of</b> the novel. Provide a brief synopsis by including information about the characters, setting, and problem/conflict the characters faced. Don't give away the ending! Be sure to tell about your favorite part of the novel, make a connection, and make a recommendation.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>	<p><b>6</b> If this novel had a <b>soundtrack</b>, what would it be? Create a YouTube playlist with at least 10 songs that would make a great soundtrack. Explain each of your choices and where they fit in the storyline.</p>
<p><b>7</b> Create a <b>comic strip</b> retelling the story in your own words. Be sure to include all of the important characters, exciting events, conflicts, and resolution.</p>	<p><b>8</b> Create a video <b>book trailer</b> using the digital tool of your choice. You should include music to set the tone. Also, tell a brief story about the central conflict and characters without revealing too much! Tease the audience!</p>	<p><b>9</b> Create a new <b>book jacket</b> for the novel. This can be created digitally or on paper. The front cover should include the title, author, and an eye-catching image. The back cover should include a summary of the novel (in your own words).</p>