Summer Reading Project Options for Eighth Grade

Due Date: September 10, 2018

Book Choices:

* *Stargirl* by Jerry Spinelli
* *Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbit
* *Roll of Thunder, Hear my Cry* by Mildred D. Taylor
* *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* by L. Frank Baum
* *Holes* by Louis Sachar
* *Night* by Elie Wiesel
* *The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd
* *The Book Thief* by Marcus Zusak

Directions: You must read TWO of these novels. You will do TWO mini projects, one on each of the novels you chose. You may choose which project to do for your book choices, but each of the project options must be done. These are due completely on September 10, 2018. Each day you are late is a 10% deduction.

Project Option #1:

* In a well-developed essay, answer each of these questions. (1) *Determine the Lesson or Moral. What do you believe is the key lesson or moral that a reader can learn from this novel? Do you believe that the author intended to communicate this specific lesson? Which aspects of the novel lead you to believe as you do?* (2) *Describe a Character. Choose one character from the novel and write a detailed description of him or her. Include as many aspects of him or her as possible, such as physical appearance, personality type, morals and values. Explain whether the character is dynamic (changes throughout the story) or static (does not change).* (3) *Evaluate the Conclusion How satisfying was the conclusion of the novel? For example, was the ending believable, predictable, outrageous, boring? Were you left hanging with unanswered questions? Do you think there is another ending that would have been more fitting, appropriate, or satisfying?* **Students should provide an outline and final draft.**

Project Option #2:

* Make a timeline of 12 major events from the novel. You must illustrate each event and they must be written in complete sentences.

“The adage ‘If you don’t use it, you lose it,’ proves true for children who spend a summer without books and reading. Without reading role models and someone to read to them, without printed material, and without new experiences, the reading skills grow rusty and waste away.”

-From Jim Trelease Author of *Read All About It* and *The Read-Aloud Handbook*