

Revere Public Schools Summer Reading 2011

Revere High School

Purpose of the Program

The purpose of the Revere Public Schools Summer Reading Program is to help students understand that reading can be fun and enjoyable. Each book chosen for Summer Reading has been specifically selected with this goal in mind.

The Summer Reading Program seeks to maintain and extend literacy skills, expose students to quality literature, and to encourage all students to become lifelong readers. The ability to read and write is a critical skill necessary to achieve success in our society. We invite our students to immerse themselves in a summer of reflection, discovery, and renewal through the literature of our Summer Reading Program.

Expectations

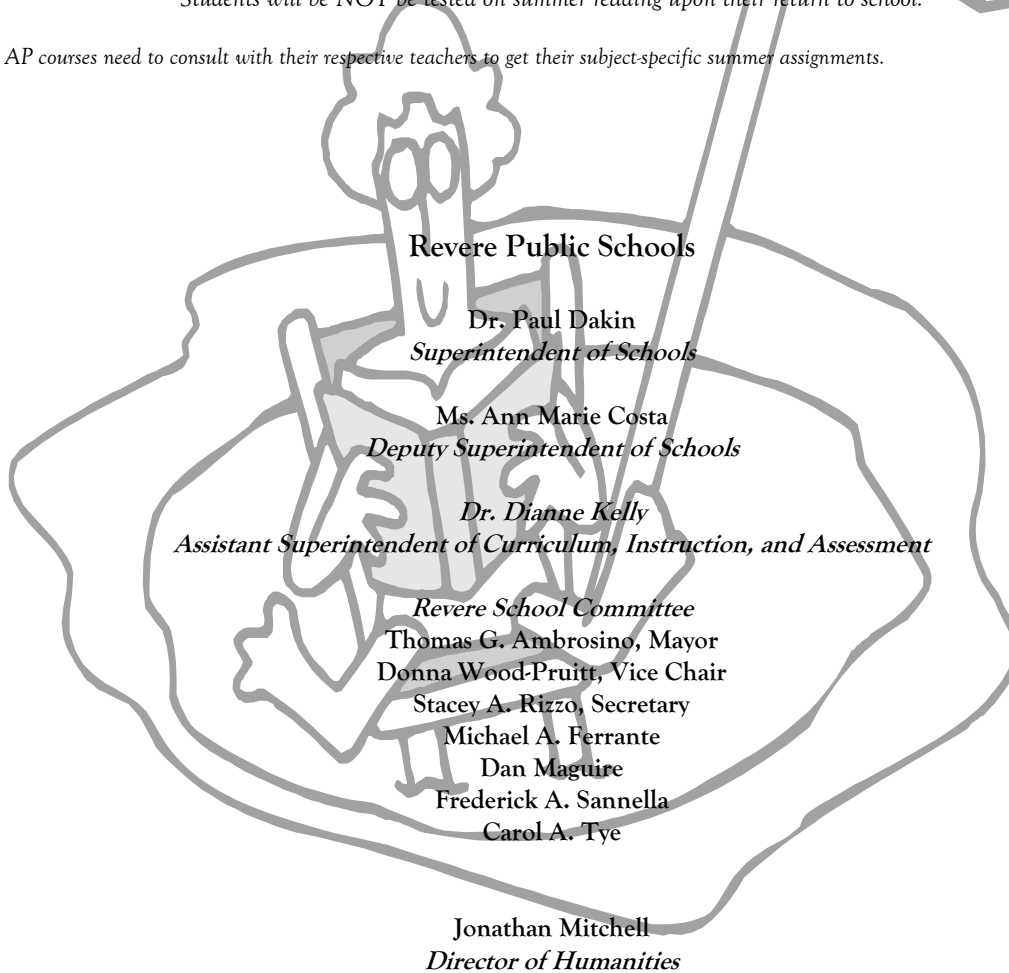
For the sake of keeping their reading skills sharp over the summer, it is our expectation that students complete the recommended summer reading as described below. High school students should read at least three books over the summer.

The summer reading books are available in limited quantities at the Revere Public Library. Most titles are also available used on websites such as Amazon.com and barnesandnobe.com.

Assessments

Students will be NOT be tested on summer reading upon their return to school.

Students enrolled in AP courses need to consult with their respective teachers to get their subject-specific summer assignments.



Revere Public Schools

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Superintendent of Schools

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Deputy Superintendent of Schools

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Special thanks to the many members of the Summer Reading Committee who spent countless hours working together to bring this program to the students of Revere. Some of the book description content courtesy of Barnes and Noble.

STUDENTS ENTERING GRADE 9

Students are required to read three books, one from each of the following categories:

English (Choose One)

The Cay (Taylor) - In April, 1942, following the torpedo blast that sinks his Virginia-bound ship, eleven-year-old Phillip Enright is left blinded and stranded on a saltwater cay with an initially fearsome West Indian native.

The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens: The Ultimate Teenage Success Guide (Covey) - Covey provides a step-by-step guide to help teens improve self-image, build friendships, resist peer pressure, achieve their goals, get along with their parents, and much more.

Fat Chance (Newman) - In a series of diary entries, thirteen-year old Judi tells of her struggles to lose weight, hide her bulimia from her mother, find a boyfriend, and decide on a profession.

History (Choose One)

Fever 1793 (Halse Anderson) In 1793 Philadelphia, sixteen-year-old Matilda Cook, separated from her sick mother, learns about perseverance and self-reliance when she is forced to cope with the horrors of a yellow fever epidemic.

Abigail Adams: Witness to a Revolution (Bober) This *Boston Globe* Horn Book Award winning biography tells the story of a woman who was more than simply the wife of one president and mother of another president. Readers will gain insight into what life was like in the early years of our country.

Science (Choose One)

Radioactive Boy Scout (Silverstein) The true story of a scientifically curious 16-year-old living in suburban Detroit who sets out to build a model nuclear reactor in his oblivious parents' backyard potting shed.

Into the Wild (Krakauer) The author of *Into Thin Air* reconstructs the final four months of college graduate Chris McCandless' troubled life after he gave up all his worldly possessions and tried to re-invent himself in the wilderness of Alaska.

STUDENTS ENTERING GRADE 10

Students are required to read three books, one from each of the following categories

English (Choose One)

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time (Haddon) If you like a good mystery, peppered with humor and some sadness, this is the book for you. Follow Christopher, a young, mathematically gifted autistic boy, as he investigates the suspicious death of Wellington, a neighborhood dog (contains isolated episodes of profanity)

The Pact: Three Young Men Make a Promise and Fulfill a Dream (Davis) - As teenagers from a rough part of Newark, New Jersey, Sampson Davis, Rameck Hunt, and George Jenkins make a pact to finish high school and attend medical school together, despite the poverty and crime they face every day.

Sold (McCormick) Lakshmi is a thirteen-year-old girl who lives with her family in a small hut in a mountain village in Nepal. Though crushingly poor, her life is made up of simple pleasures like going to school and spending time with her loving ama, and baby brother. But these happy times are tragically undercut by her father's desperate act to combat his family's poverty: selling his young daughter into the sex trade in the big city.

History (Choose One)

The Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic, and Madness at the Fair the Changed America (Larson) -The Chicago World's Fair of 1893 is the setting for this factual account of a serial killer who lurked in the city and the intriguing historical figures who attended the fair.

Hiroshima (Hersey) Survivors of the atomic bombing of the Japanese city of Hiroshima provide first-hand accounts of the devastating effects of this historic event.

Science (Choose One):

Silent Spring (Carson) - Released in 1962, this book offered the first shattering look at widespread ecological degradation. With discussion about poisons from insecticides, weed killers, and other common products, this book will reveal the dangers of the modern world.

Radar, Hula Hoops and Playful Pigs: 67 Digestible Commentaries on the Fascinating Chemistry of Everyday Life (Schwarz)

A collection of fascinating stories that help the reader see the wonder of chemistry at work in history, forensics, health, and everyday life. The book explores the origins of clichés such as "basking in the limelight," why feet can smell like cheese (and vice versa), and the chemical basis for Van Gogh's Genius / Insanity. **Readers, please read the following selections: *A Quest for the Right Chemistry; Evangelists, Mad Scientists, and Cricket Krap; An Appeal for Chemical Literacy; Basking in the Limelight; Jeanetics; Playing with Chemicals; Radar, Hula Hoops, and Playful Pigs; Some Magical Chemistry; Living Can be Fatal; Soupy Science; The Feet of God; Chemical Witchcraft in Salem; Colorful Wastes; Fight Crime: Eat Chalk; Van Gogh's Brain.***

STUDENTS ENTERING GRADE 11

Students are required to read three books, one from each of the following categories:

English (Choose One)

The Teammates (Halberstam) - The famous journalist and baseball fan presents a short but sweet account of the lives and friendship of four ballplayers from the legendary Boston Red Sox teams of the 1940s: Ted Williams, Dominic DiMaggio, Johnny Pesky, and Bobby Doerr.

The Secret Life of Bees (Monk Kidd) - Fourteen-year old Lily, neglected by her father, searches for a connection to her deceased mother, and ends up in Tiburon, North Carolina, the place where three black sisters produce Black Madonna Honey.

History (Choose One)

All Quiet on the Western Front (Remarque) Paul Baumer and his friends eagerly enlist in the German army during World War I, but slowly realize the horrors of war as they fight in the trenches.

First They Killed My Father (Ung) From a childhood survivor of Cambodia's brutal Pol Pot regime comes an unforgettable true story of war crimes and desperate actions, the unnerving strength of a small girl and her family, and their triumph of spirit

Science (Choose One)

The Lives of a Cell: Notes of a Biology Watcher (Thomas) - A fantastic collection of essays that explore biological relationships in terms everyone can understand and appreciate. A National Book Award winning collection makes for a great read!

The Hot Zone (Preston) - OOOOH Scary! A great nonfiction book that reads like a Steven King novel in terms of the fear it elicits. The story describes an incident that happened in Reston, Virginia, when the deadly Ebola virus is found in primates (monkeys) for the first time in the United States

STUDENTS ENTERING GRADE 12

Students are required to read three books, one from each of the following categories:

English (Choose One)

Tuesdays with Morrie (Albom) - A Detroit Free Press journalist and best-selling author recounts his weekly visits with a dying teacher who years before had set him straight.

Catalyst (Halse Anderson) - Eighteen-year old Katie doesn't always like being the preacher's daughter. She finds herself losing control in her senior year as she deals with difficult neighbors, the possibility that she may not be accepted by her college of choice, and an unexpected death.

How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents (Alvarez) It's a long way from Santo Domingo to the Bronx, but if anyone can go the distance, it's the Garcia girls. Four lively Latinas plunged from a pampered life of privilege on an island compound into the big-city chaos of New York, they rebel against Mami and Papi's old-world discipline and embrace all that America has to offer.

History (Choose One)

All Souls: A Family Story from Southie (MacDonald) - A poor family's struggles are recounted in this modern memoir about growing up in the poverty-stricken neighborhood of South Boston during a turbulent time in the city's history.

In Revere, In Those Days (Merullo) - A young man recounts stories of his life while growing up in Revere in the 1960s and 1970s.

Science (Choose One)

The Double Helix (Watson) - Short but historically and scientifically interesting piece that chronicles what is arguably the most important scientific moment in the past 100 years. A fascinating portrait of the people involved in doing science. If you think sports are competitive, try science!

Stiff (Roach) From medicinal mummies to cadaver models for crash-test dummies, a San Francisco writer presents a well-researched, lively dissection of offbeat ways that the dead have served the living through scientific research. A good choice for students considering the medical professions, the book addresses the moral and ethical issues surrounding societies' treatment of the dead.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

In addition to the three books required in English, history, and science, students enrolled in upper level foreign language classes need to select an additional book as described below.

STUDENTS ENTERING SPANISH II (Choose One)

Color of My Words (Joseph) When did you discover your passion? On the beautiful island of the Dominican Republic, a girl's perfect world is turned upside down when her family, in danger of losing everything they worked for, actually loses so much more. Out of tragedy comes the great gift of discovering a passion and healing.

Secret of the Andes (Clark) Would you choose a life full of travel, adventure and family over that of a llama herder? This is the dilemma a young boy faces as his mentor steps back and lets him discover his own path. His adventure, courage, and spirit lead him to discover his true calling and find the incredible secret that his chosen life holds.

STUDENTS ENTERING SPANISH III (Choose One)

When I Was Puerto Rican (Santiago) Ripped from her native soil, Esmerelda Santiago never knew how good she had it. From the peaceful countryside of Puerto Rico to a booming U.S. metropolis, Esmerelda is coming of age at a time when all American girls are searching for their voice. How far away would you stray from the teachings of your family to find your dream?

Parrot in the Oven (Martinez) Is it better to be a good student? A prize fighter? A caring brother? A migrant worker? A romantic? A gang member? Finding your true self is never easy, but as Manny discovers, some paths are not worth the cost.

STUDENTS ENTERING FRENCH II (Choose One)

The Dark Child (Laye) A memoir of the author's youth in the village of Koroussa, French Guinea, *The Dark Child* describes the journey into adulthood of a young man who must choose between maintaining his unique heritage and leaving his homeland for the opportunity of academic success in foreign and culturally different cities.

The Little Prince (Saint-Exupery) An aviator whose plane is forced down in the Sahara Desert encounters a little prince from a small planet who relates his adventures in seeking the secret of what is important in life.

STUDENTS ENTERING FRENCH III (Choose One)

So Long a Letter (Ba) An intense and poised novel in the form of a letter written by Ramatoulaye, who has recently been widowed.

Zazie in the Metro (Queneau) The mischievous title character was supposed to simply visit her uncle in Paris, but a strike on the Metro subway line provides her with an opportunity for zany trouble that is too tempting to ignore.

STUDENTS ENTERING ITALIAN II

The Italian Way (Constantino and Gambella) This readable and valuable handbook helps students understand how people from every corner of Italy think, do business, and act in their daily lives.

STUDENTS ENTERING ITALIAN III

As the Romans Do: An American Family's Italian Odyssey (Epstein) The author details his love for his newfound Roman home and relates its style, history, culture, and drama in a humorous, anecdotal story.

STUDENTS ENTERING ITALIAN IV

La Bella Figura: A Field Guide to the Italian Mind (Severgnini) By describing visits to thirty locations around the world, the author attempts to describe what truly goes on inside the typical Italian head. Old myths are debunked, and new ones abound in this humorous guidebook.