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## Hamden High School

In partnership with the students, parents, and community of Hamden, our mission as educators is to develop well-educated, responsible, and productive global citizens through a program of studies that will enable them to grow as individuals, to value differences, and to adapt to a changing world.

### **Hamden High School's 2017 Summer Reading Assignment**

Dear Hamden High School Student,

This summer reading assignment has been designed to help you strengthen the critical reading skills you will need for continued success and life-long learning. It will also introduce you to some engaging reading. It is a fact that students who read over the summer tend to read better throughout the school year. We hope we have recommended some titles that will turn you into a lifelong reader!

By the end of the summer, you must read **ONE** work of literature, fiction or non-fiction. Please visit the HHS Summer Reading web page for recommendations ([www.hamden.org/hhsreads](http://www.hamden.org/hhsreads)). In addition to popular titles and teacher recommendations, the web page contains links to multiple book lists, including award-winning and teen-selected titles. We encourage you to choose a book from here. Make sure you select a book that you have not already read. The list includes books that are at a variety of reading levels, so choose one that is appropriate for you. Some books paint realistic pictures of young adult and adult life, so evaluate your choices with the guidance of your parent or guardian.

We learn about other books, our world, and most importantly, ourselves, when we have the opportunity to talk with others about the texts we have read. Within the first two weeks of your return to school, your teacher will assign one of the four following options for “conversations” about texts:

- 1) A group discussion in which you'll talk with your peers about the books you've read, **or**
- 2) A technologically-based conversation using technological tools to express your thoughts, opinions or questions in response to the text you've read, **or**
- 3) An oral presentation demonstrating your thoughts, opinions and questions in response to the text, **or**
- 4) Some kind of writing in response to an essential question you'll encounter in your coursework.

Regardless of the option your teacher assigns, the information you share about your reading habits will be important. It will help your teachers understand how and why each of you select what you read and what sorts of books we should be including as options for whole-class novels. Also, it will help us make choices as we add to our independent reading libraries.

We want you to enjoy this opportunity to become involved in some exciting reading and return to school ready to share your pleasurable and rewarding experience.

Sincerely,

The Hamden High School English Department