

April 2014

Dear Students and Parents/Guardians,

Summertime is quickly approaching! It is an excellent time for reading: reading at the beach, reading on the lanai, reading on the plane, reading on the bus, reading by the pool...well, you get the idea. Reading is a lifelong, mind-expanding activity that deserves attention year-round, not just when school is "in session."

Research shows a strong connection between independent reading and increased vocabulary and comprehension skills. In order to promote independent reading outside of the classroom, all Kamehameha teachers have established a Summer Reading Program for students in Grades 1 through 12.

Upon starting school in the fall, students entering grade 7 will be expected to have read a minimum of two books over the summer. The required 7th grade summer reading book is Flipped by Wendelin Van Draanen. This book will be used by all three seventh grade teams at the beginning of next school year. For their second selection, students may pick any novel of choice with at least 200 pages. Within the first month of the new school year, English teachers will assess the students' knowledge of the two titles they read.

Young people often look to parents and other significant adults for guidance and inspiration, so we urge parents to share in this summer's reading. By reading and discussing with your child, you can both share the enjoyment reading can bring. Your consistent support and encouragement play an important role in your child's ongoing growth and development. For your convenience the summer reading list has been posted to our KSKMS website http://kapalama.ksbe.edu/middle/.

If you have any questions about summer reading, please contact Erika Cravalho, Curriculum & Teaming Coordinator, at 843-3474. We look forward to seeing you in the fall.

Mahalo nui loa,

Renade Kaneakua

7th grade English Kumu

Puanani Lucis Kain

Puanani Mills Ka'ai

Principal

Christy Mishina

Curriculum and Teaming Coordinator

Seventh Grade Reading List Descriptions

REQUIRED READING:

Flipped by Wendelin Van Draanen



Flipped (2001) by Wendelin Van Draanen tells the story of two youngsters whose diverse views of their relationship evolve over many years until those perspectives are "flipped."

In the beginning, Julianna falls hard for Bryce. Naturally, being 7, Bryce has no interest. However, as the novel progresses, both children grow up and their emotions change drastically.

YOUR CHOICE NOVEL:

The second title selection may be any novel of choice with at least 200 pages. A novel is any relatively long work of prose fiction. Books with a collection of short stories by either one or multiple authors are not acceptable. Students will use this selection in several assignments that his/her teacher will require at the start of the year. Students who read many novels may choose their favorite for the class assignment.

Here are a few novels students have enjoyed:

The Candymakers by Wendy Mass (2010)

Disney after Dark by Ridley Pearson (2005)

Hot Hand by Mike Lupica (2007)

Diversion by Veronica Roth (2010)

In a Heart Beat by Loretta Ellsworth (2010)

City of Bones by Cassandra Clare (2008)

Rangers Apprentice by John Flanagan (2005)



and many more!

Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body.

Joseph Addison

Ua lehulehu a manomano ka 'ikena a ka Hawai'i Great and numerous is the knowledge of the Hawaiians