



KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS KAPĀLAMA
MIDDLE SCHOOL

April 2009

Dear Students and Parents/Guardians:

Summertime is almost here, and that means another season for the **Kamehameha Summer Reading Program**. Summer is an excellent time for reading and provides countless opportunities: reading at the beach, reading on the lanai, reading on the plane, reading on the bus, reading by the pool. The possibilities are endless.

Research shows a strong connection between independent reading and increased vocabulary and comprehension skills. In an effort to promote year-round independent reading outside of the classroom, English and language arts teachers have established a summer reading program for grades 1 through 12.

At the start of school in the fall, students entering grade 8 will be expected to have read a minimum of **two** books over the summer. The **required** 8th grade summer reading book is *Eyes of the Emperor* by Graham Salisbury. **We are requiring that students purchase this book since they will be using it for in-class novel study during the first quarter of the year.** For their second selection, students may pick **any novel of choice** with at least 150 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. 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/>.

I mua Kamehameha and we look forward to seeing you in the fall.

Sincerely,

Noe Chun

8th Grade English Kumu

Lynn Ka'opūiki

Suelyn Tune

Puanani Mills Ka'ai
KSKMS Po'okumu

P.S. - If you have any questions about summer reading, please contact Laurie Seto, Curriculum & Teaming Coordinator, phone 843-3474.

8th Grade Reading List Descriptions

REQUIRED READING:

Eyes of the Emperor by Graham Salisbury



When Eddy Okubo lies about his age and joins the United States Army in Honolulu in 1941, he isn't expecting war to break out. But soon after he enlists, the Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor, and suddenly his fellow Americans see him as the enemy. Even the army doubts his loyalty—and the loyalty of all American soldiers of Japanese ancestry.

Eddy and twenty-four other Japanese American soldiers are sent to a remote island on a secret mission, given a terrifying job, and told that only they can do it. On the island, the meanings of duty, patriotism, loyalty, and courage are tested in a bizarre world where Eddy is tried in unbelievable ways.

In this riveting account of a little-known chapter of American history, Graham Salisbury returns to the story of Hawaii at war that he began in the award-winning Under the Blood-Red Sun. Salisbury's powerful language and dramatic action compel the reader to share every moment of Eddy's extraordinary story.

Hardcover (Paperback Available): 225 pages; Published by Wendy Lamb Books, a trademark of Random House, Inc., August 2005; ISBN 0-385-72971-5

YOUR CHOICE NOVEL:

The second title selection may be any novel of choice with *at least 150 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 presentation. **Students are not to read Touching Spirit Bear as a summer choice novel.**

Here are a few novels students have enjoyed:

The Land by Mildred D. Taylor Penguin Putnam Inc. (December 2003)

Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants by Ann Brashares Delacort Press (2001)

Small Steps (sequel to Holes) by Louis Sachar Delacort Press (January 2006)

Freak the Mighty by Rodman Philbrick The Blue Sky Press (1993)

Out of the Wilderness by Deb Vanasse Houghton Mifflin Co. (1999)

Rough Waters by S. L. Rottman Peachtree Publishers, Ltd. (1997)