



KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS  
KAPĀLAMA MIDDLE SCHOOL

April 2018

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 8<sup>th</sup> grade summer reading book is *The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander. We are pleased to announce that a copy of this novel will be given to each seventh grade student in his or her English class before the end of the school year. This book will be used by all three 8th grade teams at the beginning of the next school 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://blogs.ksbe.edu/kskms/>.

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,

Mandy Chock  
8<sup>th</sup> grade English Kumu

Denise Ebisuya

Christy Mishina

Puanani Mills Ka'ai, Ed.D.  
Principal

Erika Cravalho, Ed.D.  
Curriculum and Teaming Coordinator

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading

*The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander

2015 Newbery Medal Winner  
2015 Coretta Scott King Honor Award Winner  
New York Times Bestseller

*"With a bolt of lightning on my kicks . . . The court is SIZZLING. My sweat is DRIZZLING. Stop all that quivering. Cuz tonight I'm delivering,"* announces dread-locked, 12-year old Josh Bell. He and his twin brother Jordan are awesome on the court. But Josh has more than basketball in his blood, he's got ma'd beats, too, that tell his family's story in verse, in this fast and furious middle grade novel of family and brotherhood from Kwame Alexander.



The required 8<sup>th</sup> grade summer reading book is *The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander. We are pleased to announce that a copy of this novel will be given to each seventh grade student in his or her English class before the end of the school year. This book will be used by all 8th grade teams at the beginning of the next school year. For their second required reading selection, students may pick *any novel of their 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 summer reading titles.

Here are a few novels middle school students have enjoyed:

*11 Birthdays* by Wendy Mass (2013)

*Believe: The Victorious Story of Eric LeGrand* by Eric LeGrand (2012)

*Eon* by Alison Goodman (2010)

*Everything, Everything* by Nicola Yoon (2017)

*Fangirl* by Rainbow Rowell (2013)

*The Fault in Our Stars* by John Green (2014)

*The Girl Who Was Supposed to Die* by April Henry (2014)

*I Heart You, You Haunt Me* by Lisa Schroeder (2008)

*Illuminae* by Amie Kaufan and Jay Kristoff (2015)

*The Land of Stories* by Chris Colfer (2013)

*Ready Player One* by Ernest Cline (2012)

*Swindle* by Gordon Korman (2009)

*Warriors #1: Into the Wild (Warriors: The Prophecies Begin)* by Eric Hunter (2014)

Check out the full list:

Erin Hunter, Dave Stevenson, and Lemony Snicket. "The Best Books for Middle School According to My Students – 2017." Pernillesripp.com, 15 May 2017, [pernillesripp.com/2017/05/13/the-best-books-for-middle-school-according-to-my-students-2017/](http://pernillesripp.com/2017/05/13/the-best-books-for-middle-school-according-to-my-students-2017/).