

Summer Reading 2018-2019
H.E. McCracken Middle School

Dear HEMMS families,

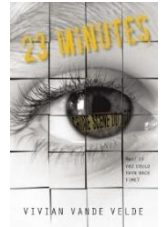
We are so excited that summer is here! We hope you will spend time with family and friends and enjoy all the experiences our county has to offer. During summer break, we are asking students who will be attending HEMMS to pick TWO books to read from the options below. Don't worry about any assignments or projects, just read (jotting notes or drawing pictures might help you remember the books, but it isn't mandatory)! Parents, please preview the books your child wishes to read to ensure you feel they are appropriate. When students return to school in August we will work in Book Clubs to discuss the books. If you have any questions please email our Literacy Coach, Miss Padgett, at ashton.padgett@beaufort.k12.sc.us. Have a great summer!

23 Minutes by Vivian Vande Velde

Witnessing a bank robbery gone awry, misfit 15-year-old Zoe, a girl with supernatural ability to jump back in time and repeat events with up to 10 tries, attempts to stop the crime but only makes things worse with each successive effort.

Genre: Thriller/Suspense

Lexile: 900



Beautiful Blue World by Suzzane Lafleur

Sofarende is at war and the army is paying families well to recruit children, so if twelve-year-old Mathilde or her best friend Megs is chosen, they hope to help their families but fear they will be separated forever.

Genre: Fantasy

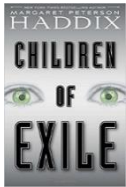
Lexile: 540

Booked by Kwame Alexander

Twelve-year-old Nick loves soccer and hates books, but soon learns the power of words as he wrestles with problems at home, stands up to a bully, and tries to impress the girl of his dreams.

Genre: Realistic Fiction (Sports)

Lexile: 660



Children of EXILE by Margaret Peterson Haddix

A twelve-year-old girl raised in a foster village is returned to her biological parents, and discovers home is not what she expected it to be.

Genre: Science Fiction

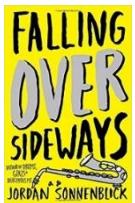
Lexile: 680

Falling Over Sideways by Jordan Sonnenblick

Harassed at her middle school, not taken seriously at home, and with a "perfect" older brother, Matthew, to live up to, thirteen-year-old Claire has always felt like her life was cursed--then one morning, when she and her beloved father are talking at breakfast, her father suddenly falls over with a stroke, and suddenly everything changes.

Genre: Realistic Fiction

Lexile: 860



Ghost by Jason Reynolds

Ghost, a naturally talented runner and troublemaker, is recruited for an elite middle school track team. He must stay on track, literally and figuratively, to reach his full potential.

Genre: Realistic Fiction

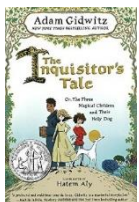
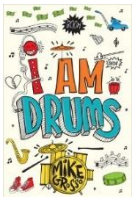
Lexile: 730

I am Drums by Mike Grosso

A single-minded twelve-year-old drummer, challenged by her school's budget cuts and her family's financial woes, must find a way to keep her dreams of drumming alive.

Genre: Realistic Fiction

Lexile: 730



The Inquisitor's Tale by Adam Gidwitz

Crossing paths at an inn, thirteenth-century travelers impart the tales of a monastery oblate, a Jewish refugee, and a psychic peasant girl with a loyal greyhound, the three of whom join forces on a chase through France to escape persecution.

Genre: Historical Fantasy

Lexile: 620

***Last Man Out* by Mike Lupica**

Twelve-year-old Tommy Gallagher, the bravest and toughest football player on the field, faces his biggest battle ever when his father, a Boston firefighter, is fatally injured while rescuing a child.

Genre: Fiction (Sports)

Lexile: 840



***Mighty Jack* by Ben Hatke**

In *Mighty Jack*, what starts as a normal little garden out back behind the house quickly grows up into a wild, magical jungle with tiny onion babies running amok, huge, pink pumpkins that bite, and, on one moonlit night that changes everything...a dragon.

Genre: Graphic Novel

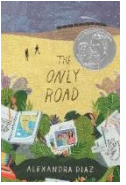
Lexile: 490

***The Only Road* by Alexandra Diaz**

Twelve-year-old Jaime makes the treacherous journey from his home in Guatemala to his older brother in New Mexico after his cousin is murdered by a drug cartel.

Genre: Realistic Fiction

Lexile: 830



***Soar* by Joan Bauer**

Moving to Hillcrest, Ohio, when his adoptive father accepts a temporary job, twelve-year-old Jeremiah, a heart transplant recipient, has sixty days to find a baseball team to coach.

Genre: Realistic Fiction (Sports)

Lexile: 510

***Some Kind of Courage* by Dan Gemeinhart**

In 1890 Washington, the only family Joseph Johnson has left is his half-wild Indian pony, Sarah, so when she is sold by a man who has no right to do so, he sets out to get her back--and he plans to let nothing stop him in his quest.

Genre: Historical Fiction

Lexile: 760



***We Will Not be Silent* by Russell Freedman**

The true story of the White Rose, a group of students in Nazi Germany who were active undercover agents of the resistance movement against Hitler and his regime.

Genre: Nonfiction (Biography)

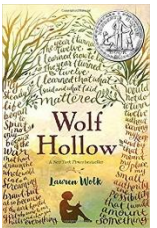
Lexile: 630

***Wolf Hollow* by Lauren Wolk**

Twelve-year-old Annabelle must learn to stand up for what's right in the face of a manipulative and violent new bully who targets people Annabelle cares about, including a homeless World War I veteran.

Genre: Historical Fiction

Lexile: 800



7th & 8th Grade ONLY

***The Crown's Game* by Evelyn Skye**

Vika Andreyeva and Nikolai Karimov are the only enchanters in Russia, and when the Ottoman Empire and the Kazakhs threaten to attack, the tsar wants a powerful enchanter by his side, and as an advisor for the prince, Pasha. He initiates the Crown's Game, a duel of magical skill, and the winner will become his Imperial Enchanter; the loser will die.

Genre: Historical Fantasy

Lexile: 800

***The Darkest Hour* by Caroline Tung Richmond**

In 1943 sixteen-year-old Lucie Blaise is the newest recruit of Covert Ops, a secret espionage and sabotage organization of girls, and her mission in German occupied France is to track down information about a weapon that could wipe out all of Western Europe--and then dismantle it before it can be used.

Genre: Historical Fiction/Thriller

Lexile: 790

***Four-Four-Two* by Dean Hughes**

Forced into an internment camp at the start of World War II, eighteen-year-old Yuki enlists in the Army to fight for the Allies as a member of the "Four-Four-Two," a segregated Japanese American regiment.

Genre: Historical Fiction

Lexile: 820

***Love & Gelato* by Jenna Evans Welch**

After her mother dies, Lina travels to Italy where she discovers her mother's journal and sets off on an adventure to unearth her mother's secrets.

Genre: Realistic Fiction

Lexile: 640