

GREAT SUMMER READING
Wachusett Regional High School English Program
June 2011

Summer reading suggestions for the Class of 2015 (Grade 9 in Fall 2011)

Nothing prepares students for success at school like an ability to read well. Wachusett Regional High School encourages students to read – both in and out of school – and to share their reading with family and friends. To help our students either develop good reading habits or continue on the path of reading, WRHS teachers and students suggest the following sample of books as worthy investments of time this summer.

***At Risk* by Alice Hoffman**

Amanda, an 11-year-old on track to become a star, contracts AIDS through a blood transfusion. Her life and the lives of her family and her community are turned upside down.

***Ellen Foster* by Kaye Gibbons**

Set in the American south, this book follows the orphaned and abused Ellen through her struggles to find a home and happiness.

***Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card**

Aliens have attacked Earth, and in response, Earth's most promising young cadets train for war. Ender is the most promising of them all.

***The Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman**

After witnessing his parents' brutal murder, a toddler wanders into a graveyard and grows up there under the protection of otherworldly spirits.

***The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien**

This prequel to the epic Lord of the Rings trilogy follows clever Bilbo Baggins as he embarks on an adventure with a troop of dwarves and finds a mysterious ring along the way.

***Sunrise Over Fallujah* by Walter Dean Meyers**

This novel follows Robin Perry, who decides to enlist in the U.S. Army after September 11, as he trains to take part in the war with Iraq.

***The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins**

Sixteen-year-old Katniss lives with her mother and younger sister in the poorest district of what used to be the United States. Each district must send one boy and one girl to appear in an annual televised event called The Hunger Games. The goal: kill or be killed.

***The Perks of Being a Wallflower* by Stephen Chbosky**

Told through a series of letters, this funny, touching novel details the trials and angst of Charlie, who, while not a geek, is certainly not the most popular boy in the ninth grade.

ATTENTION ENGLISH 9 HONORS STUDENTS: All students entering English 9 Honors are required to read *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding and to write a composition of approximately 300 words responding to *one* of the prompts below. A simple plot summary is not acceptable.

1. Compare one or more aspects of this novel to something in your own life.
Or,
2. Pretend you are stranded on a deserted island with one character from the novel. Which one would you pick and why?

Mail the paper, no later than Friday, August 19, to English Coordinator, Wachusett Regional High School, 1401 Main Street, Holden, MA 01520. WRHS can provide copies of the novel (ask at the main office during the summer recess), but students are encouraged to buy their own copies.