

Announcing Our NMS Summer Reading List!

Summer reading books have been chosen that align with our BEST standards and units of study. Students will be held accountable for reading two books over the summer. **The starred book from the incoming grade level list is required.** The second book is free choice from the appropriate grade level list. Required reading will be reviewed by the Language Arts Department during the first month of the 2025-2026 school year.

An **optional** story map may be printed out to take notes on to help with remembering the important parts of the books. We hope you enjoy the books that have been selected.

If you have any questions, please email: Ms. Angel Welsh, Language Arts Department Co-Chair, at: marie.welsh@browardschools.com, Ms. Keisha Lopez, Language Arts Department Co-Chair, at: k.lopez@browardschools.com, or Ms. Juliet Rezende, Literacy Coach at: juliet.rezende@browardschools.com.

You may also call the school at: (754) 323-3700. We appreciate your participation and cooperation.

Books may be purchased, checked out from a public library or:

You can join free and read through:
<https://www.readanybook.com/> or
<https://openlibrary.org/>

Audiobooks may be available through Learning Ally Audio Book Solutions in CLEVER.

All YA books should be approved by a parent or guardian.

Incoming 6th Graders

******Pax by Sara Pennypacker***

“Pax” tells the story of a boy named Peter and his best friend; a fox named Pax. When Peter’s father volunteers to go to war, Peter must give up the fox he has raised since it was a kit. Peter wars with himself as he feels guilty for abandoning his friend.

Beethoven in Paradise by Barbara O’Connor

Martin longs to be a musician, and with the encouragement of two very different friends, he eventually is able to defy his mean-hearted father and accept himself and the talent within him.

Old Yeller by Fred Gipson

Old Yeller is a classic historical fiction novel about the friendship between a boy and his dog. With his Papa away on a cattle drive, 14-year-old Travis Coates gets help from a brave stray dog. Together, they defend the homestead and protect Travis’s mother and little brother. When a plague of hydrophobia threatens the family, Travis must make a difficult decision. The novel explores themes of family and friendship, as well as the joys and sorrows of becoming an adult.

Ninth Ward by Jewell Parker Rhodes

Twelve-year-old Lanesha lives in a tight-knit community in New Orleans’ Ninth Ward. She doesn’t have a fancy house like her uptown family or lots of friends like other kids on her street. But what she does have is Mama Ya-Ya, her fiercely loving caretaker, wise in the ways of the world and able to predict the future. So when Mama Ya-Ya’s visions show a powerful hurricane—Katrina—fast approaching, it’s up to Lanesha to call upon the hope and strength Mama Ya-Ya has given her to help them both survive the storm.

Ninth Ward is a celebration of resilience, love, family, and friendship, and a deeply emotional story of transformation.

Incoming 7th Graders

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

Ender’s Game is set at an unspecified date in Earth’s future. The novel presents an imperiled humankind after two conflicts with an insectoid alien species they dub, “the buggers”. In preparation for an anticipated third invasion, Earth’s international military force recruits young children, including, Andrew “Ender” Wiggin, to be trained as elite officers.

Peak by Roland Smith

After fourteen-year-old Peak Marcello is arrested for scaling a New York City skyscraper, he's left with two choices: wither away in Juvenile Detention or go live with his long-lost father, who runs a climbing company in Thailand. Peak quickly learns that his father's renewed interest in him has strings attached. Big strings. As owner of Peak Expeditions, he wants his son to be the youngest person to reach the Everest summit--and his motives are selfish at best. Even so, for a climbing addict like Peak, tackling Everest is the challenge of a lifetime. But it's also one that could cost him his life.

A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L’Engle

It was a dark and stormy night. Out of this wild night, a strange visitor comes to the Murry house and beckons Meg, her brother Charles Wallace, and their friend Calvin O’Keefe on a most dangerous and extraordinary adventure—one that will threaten their lives and our universe.

I Am Still Alive by Kate Alice Marshall

After a car crash kills her mother, Jess goes to live with her survivalist, off-the-grid father--whom she hasn't seen in a decade--in the Canadian wilderness. But just as the two begin to reconnect, a secret from his past arrives, leaving him dead and the cabin burned to the ground. Suddenly, Jess finds herself abandoned in the cold Canadian wilderness. With only her dog for company, Jess must find a way to survive the harsh environment if she is to seek revenge on the person who killed her father.

Rising 8th Graders

*****Fuzzy by Tom Angleberger and Paul Dellinger**

When Max—Maxine Zealster—befriends her new robot classmate Fuzzy, part of Vanguard One Middle School's new Robot Integration Program, she helps him learn everything he needs to know about surviving middle school—the good, the bad, and the really, really, ugly. Little do they know that surviving sixth grade is going to become a true matter of life and death, because Vanguard has an evil presence at its heart: a digital student evaluation system named BARBARA that might be taking its mission to shape the perfect student to extremes!

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

By her brother's graveside, Liesel's life is changed when she picks up a single object, partially hidden in the snow. It is The Gravedigger's Handbook, left behind there by accident, and it is her first act of book thievery. So begins a love affair with books and words, as Liesel, with the help of her accordion-playing foster father, learns to read. Soon she is stealing books from Nazi book-burnings, the mayor's wife's library, wherever there are books to be found.

The Not So Boring Letters of Private Nobody by Matthew Landis

Twelve-year-old Oliver Prichard is obsessed with the Civil War. He knows everything about it: the battles, the generals, every movement of the Union and Confederate Armies. So when the last assignment of seventh-grade history is a project on the Civil War, Oliver is over the moon--until he's partnered with Ella Berry, the slacker girl with the messy hair who does nothing but stare out the window. And when Oliver finds out they have to research a random soldier named Private Raymond Stone who didn't even fight in any battles before dying of some boring disease, Oliver knows he's doomed.

Code Orange by Caroline B. Cooney

Walking around New York City was what Mitty Blake did best. He loved the city, and even after 9/11, he always felt safe. Mitty was a carefree guy: he didn't worry about terrorists or blackouts or grades or anything, which is why he was late getting started on his Advanced Bio report.



- Chair: Debra Hixon
- Vice-Chair: Sarah Leonardi
- Lori Alhadeff
- Maura McCarthy Bulman
- Adam Cervera
- Dr. Jeff Holness
- Nora Rupert
- Rebecca Thompson
- Dr. Allen Zeman

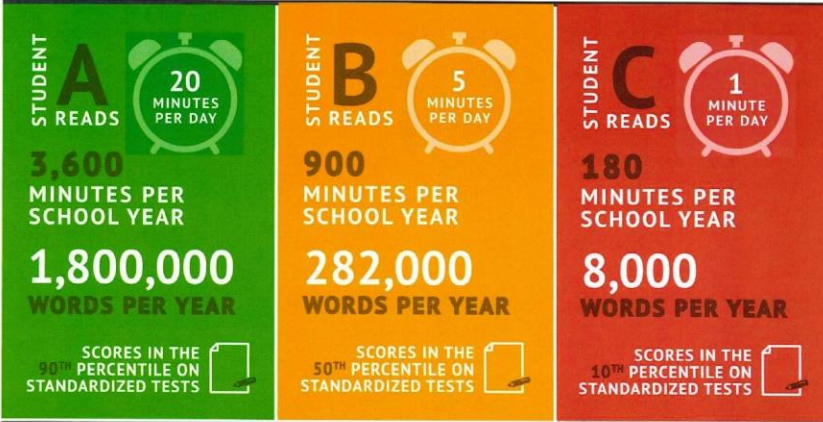
Dr. Howard Hepburn, Superintendent

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www.browardschools.com

Nova Middle School
Summer Reading List
2025

WHY READ 20 MINUTES AT HOME?



IF STUDENTS START READING 20 MINUTES PER NIGHT IN KINDERGARTEN, BY THE END OF 6TH GRADE, STUDENT A WILL HAVE READ FOR THE EQUIVALENT OF 60 SCHOOL DAYS, STUDENT B WILL HAVE READ FOR 12 AND STUDENT C FOR 3.

WANT TO BE A BETTER READER?
SIMPLY READ!

3602 College Avenue
Davie, Florida 33314
(754) 323-3700

Mr. R. Garranchan, Principal

Juliet Rezende, Literacy Coach
Angel Welsh, Language Arts Department Co-Chair
Keisha Lopez, Language Arts Department Co-Chair

We are Nova... We are intelligent, sophisticated, and hold very high expectations of ourselves!