

Louis Pasteur Middle School 67Q

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Dear Parents and Students of the Incoming 8th Grade Class of MS67,

We would like to welcome all of you to our Summer Reading Program. The following **two** selections must be read over the summer, as you will be assessed on their content in the beginning of the school year. Your ELA teacher will provide you with the specific date of the assessment.

1. Chew On This by Eric Schlosser and Charles Wilson
2. The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

In addition, you may choose to strengthen your reading skills and strategies by reading from a variety of other recommended selections. Try to vary your reading selections between fiction and nonfiction.

Some suggested titles include:

- *Peak* by Roland Smith
- *Bloomability* by Sharon Creech
- *How I Changed My Life* by Todd Strasser
- *Monster* by Walter Dean Myers
- *Silent to the Bone* by E.L. Konigsburg
- *The Skin I'm In* by Sharon G. Flake
- *Fire From the Rock* by Sharon F. Draper
- *The Hunger Games* (series) by Suzanne Collins
- *Uglies* by Scott Westerfeld
- *The Bully (Bluford Series)* by Paul Langan
- *Please Stop Laughing at Me* by Jodee Blanco
- *Farewell to Manzanar* by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston & James Houston
- *A Walk to Remember* by Nicholas Sparks
- *Watership Down* by Richard Adams
- *My Dog Skip* by Willie Morris
- *A Night to Remember* by Walter Lord
- *Endangered* by Elliot Schrefer

At MS67, we expect students to read 60 minutes a day throughout the school year. Therefore, it is important to start good reading habits early by practicing during the summer.

The teachers and I wish you an enjoyable and safe summer. We look forward to working with you in September.

Sincerely,

Anthony Rizzo
Assistant Principal, ELA

Grade 8 Summer Reading Discussion Guide

*****It is suggested that students use Active Reading (jotting notes in the margins, on Post-its, or in a notebook) while reading the selected texts.***

The Book Thief ~Markus Zusaks

- 📖 Discuss character traits (during moments of struggle, success, and overall or the differences in her point of view as she ages)
- 📖 Discuss achievements and obstacles
- 📖 Discuss her relationship between her foster father as opposed to her foster mother

- 📖 What is the author's message or theme? Are there more than one?

Chew on This ~Eric Schlosser

- 📖 How are cows, chickens, and pigs raised for the fast-food industry today?
- 📖 What are some of the effects on growing bodies of consuming too much fast food and exercising too little?
- 📖 What alternatives to eating at the big fast-food chains do the authors propose?
- 📖 What is the Author's Message

8TH GRADE ESSAY

*****This essay will be assigned within the 1st week of school, and due approximately 3-4 weeks afterwards. It is to be completed independently. It is important that the teachers evaluate and analyze authentic writing of the students, so that they can best instruct, advise, and serve them as readers, writers, and life long learners.***

GRADE 8: THINKING ABOUT REAL WORLD PROBLEMS THROUGH LITERATURE:

Analyze a major theme in one of your summer reading books... (choose one of the following tasks)...

- A. Argue whether or not society plays a major role in our lives and how we live them.
- B. Discuss how society creates and/or solves real world problems
- C. Discuss whether or not industries have a responsibility for the well-being of its people.

Your job is to explain how your evidence supports your stance, by citing evidence, specific text details and examples. Your project should be no **less** than seven hundred words (a little more than two pages double spaced)