Dear Students and Parents/Guardians,

Williamstown High School’s summer reading initiative hopes to foster an environment in which students have a positive outlook on reading. Our students are immersed in many different activities throughout the summer, and it is our goal to establish an experience where reading is enjoyable and attractive to all types of learners. Therefore, through the choice of relatable and high-interest reads, we hope to establish a stronger passion for reading.

Studies have shown that teenagers who are avid readers tend to be better students and score higher on standardized tests. It is the goal of the English Language Arts teachers not only to motivate the students to become better readers, but also to instill in them a lifelong love of reading. Assigning a book over the summer provides time to read independently without the stress of other assignments. Furthermore, since all students enrolled in the same class read the same book, teachers have the opportunity to begin the school year with a classroom full of students who can all actively participate in a class discussion. Hopefully, this positive experience will set the tone for the rest of the school year.

Students are expected to complete the reading assignments for the start of the school year, and they will be assessed on the material during the first full week of school. The assessments will be based on the New Jersey Student Learning Standards for English Language Arts and will require students to express their knowledge of the various themes in their required book. The books are available at the Monroe Township Library or they may be purchased from any bookseller (ex: Barnes and Noble, Amazon, half.com, etc.). The required books are listed on the back of this letter and will be posted on the school’s web site through the summer.

Our summer reading requirement is one of many initiatives to encourage our students to become more involved in reading. We appreciate your support as we pursue this endeavor.

Sincerely,

Williamstown High School English Language Arts Department
SUMMER READING REQUIREMENT

Incoming:
ELA I CP B  Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet by Jamie Ford
ELA I CP A  Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet by Jamie Ford
ELA I Honors  Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet by Jamie Ford
The Book Thief by Marc Zusak

ELA II CP B  The Fault in Our Stars by John Green
ELA II CP A  The Fault in Our Stars by John Green
ELA II Honors  Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain
Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston

ELA III CP B  Tuesdays with Morrie by Mitch Albom
ELA III CP A  Tuesdays with Morrie by Mitch Albom
ELA III Honors  Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck
Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury

The Crucible by Arthur Miller
Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury

ELA IV CP B  The Hobbit by J.R.R Tolkien
ELA IV CP A  The Hobbit by J.R.R Tolkien
ELA IV Honors  The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien
Heart of Darkness by Joseph Conrad

AP Lit and Comp  The Return of the Native by Thomas Hardy
Jane Eyre by Charlotte Brontë