



Out of the Starting Gate

With Junior

2010 Summer Reading

DeSales High School
Department of English

Dear Colt Parent,

Now that summer is beginning, we want to remind you and your son to include summer reading books into your vacation activities. Because summer reading is an integral part of the English curriculum, the English department has gone to great lengths to select the following books for next year's juniors. Your son will be given an assessment over his summer reading on the second day of classes, and that assessment grade will be counted on his first report card.

These books will be available at local bookstores, at the public library, (call for availability), or online at Amazon.com. **Please encourage your son to read-- it is an important and mandatory part of his education!**

All juniors must read one of the following books. **All HONORS juniors must read TWO.**

Tweaked by Katherine Holubitsky

Gordie Jessup tries to deal with his older brother's crystal meth addiction that is destroying their family

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddons

A murder mystery of sorts--Fifteen-year-old Christopher John Francis Boone is mathematically gifted and socially hopeless, raised in a working-class home by parents who can barely cope with their child's quirks. Late one night, Christopher comes across his neighbors' poodle, Wellington, impaled on a garden fork. Wellington's owner finds him cradling her dead dog in his arms, and has him arrested. After spending a night in jail, Christopher resolves--against the objection of his father and neighbors--to discover just who has murdered Wellington.

Bleachers by John Grisham

A star football player from years past comes to his old high school for the funeral of his high school coach. Cam Neely, the future professional player from the small community, reflects about the good and bad times spent with his friends and the coach he loved to hate.

The Last Lecture by Randy Pausch

Computer science professor Randy Pausch, who has been diagnosed with terminal cancer, discusses how to overcome obstacles in one's life and achieve one's dreams.

A Brave New World by Aldous Huxley

Community, Identity, Stability is the motto of Aldous Huxley's utopian World State. Here everyone consumes daily grams of soma to fight depression, babies are born in laboratories, and the most popular form of entertainment is a Feelie, a movie that stimulates the senses of sight, hearing, and touch. Though there is no violence and everyone is provided for, Bernard Marx feels something is missing, something more than the confines of their existence allow.