



**High School**  
**2021 Summer Reading**

# FPD HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER READING

## THE IMPORTANCE OF READING

God has given us language as a means of learning about creation, a way to communicate with and about God, a way to communicate about His creation and how we should live, and a tool to care for creation and change our world. God has chosen to communicate to us in writing through the Bible. Through written text, we learn about the world and other people by stepping into their shoes and we enjoy vicarious experiences by exercising our God-given imagination.

We expect all FPD students to develop the ability to learn from the written text as well as find written genres they enjoy. Our reading program will help equip the student to develop cognitively, communicate with and about God, care for and appropriately use the resources around us, and act redemptively in our world. To this end, we encourage our students to read and to discuss the texts that are read. Research has shown consistent connections between proficiency with reading comprehension and certain activities, for example:

- The availability of reading material in the home.
- Parental modeling of good reading habits.
- Parental help with monitoring homework and television viewing.
- Reading and/or being read to regularly for enjoyment.
- Discussing what you have read with someone or otherwise responding to what you have read.

Colleges recently pressured the College Board to change the SAT to have a greater emphasis on reading comprehension. The current SAT includes more reading selections and related comprehension questions.

Our summer reading program at FPD is designed to encourage students to read appropriate selections that can challenge and improve their reading comprehension. We have also incorporated a great degree of choice while still requiring students to respond to what they read. This summer we are also including common reads to generate discussion next fall. We hope each student will find these reading assignments will enhance their summer experience.

Barry E. Shealy, Ph.D.

# Contents

THE IMPORTANCE OF READING..... 2

SUMMER READING OVERVIEW..... 4

ENGLISH CLASS REQUIRED BOOK..... 5

REQUIRED CHOICE BOOK ..... 6

REQUIRED CHOICE BOOK PROJECT..... 7-8

**HIGH SCHOOL LIST** ..... 9

**SPIRITUAL EMPHASIS** ..... 21

HOW DO WE MAKE READING SELECTIONS?..... 26

## SUMMER READING OVERVIEW

The **FPD Summer Reading Program** is designed to provide a great degree of choice for the student, encourage a variety of selected texts and responses to the reading, and encourage spreading the reading over the summer. Each student in grades 9-12 will read **THREE BOOKS** (note AP difference):

**FPD COMMON READ: All High School Students Must Read 3 books.**



**Why won't God reveal his special will for my life already? Because he doesn't intend to...** So says Kevin DeYoung in this punchy book about making decisions the godly way. Many of us are listening for the still small voice to tell us what's next instead of listening to the clear voice in Scripture telling us what's now. -Amazon

### Reading Selections based on Course:

**9<sup>th</sup> CP-** Three (3) books: *Fahrenheit 451*, *Just Do Something*, and a book from the Choice Book/Spiritual Emphasis list (pages 9-25).

**9<sup>th</sup> Honors-** Three (3) books: *Anthem*, *Just Do Something*, and a book from the Choice Book/Spiritual Emphasis list (pages 9-25).

**10<sup>th</sup> CP and Honors-** Three (3) books: *The Lord of the Flies*, *Just Do Something*, and a book from the Choice Book/Spiritual Emphasis list (pages 9-25).

**11<sup>th</sup> CP American Lit-** Three (3) books: *Solo*, *Just Do Something*, and a book from the Choice Book/Spiritual Emphasis list (pages 9-25).

**11<sup>th</sup> AP Language and Composition-** Three (3) books: *The Overachievers*, *Outliers*, and *Just Do Something*.

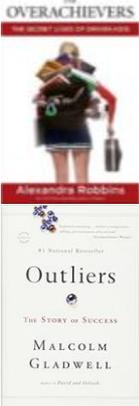
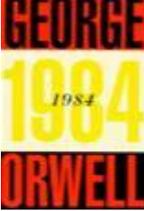
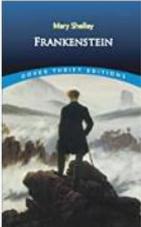
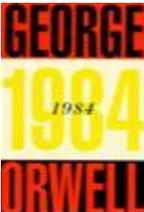
**12<sup>th</sup> CP British Lit-** Three (3) books: *1984*, *Just Do Something*, and a book from the Choice Book/Spiritual Emphasis list (pages 9-25).

**12<sup>th</sup> AP Literature and Composition-** Three (3) books: *1984*, *Frankenstein*, and *Just Do Something*.

## HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH CLASS-REQUIRED

The required book for each English course will be studied in class during the first two-three weeks of school.

	<p><b>Ninth Grade CP</b>  <i>Fahrenheit 451</i>            Bradbury, Ray            A novel set in the future when "firemen" burn books forbidden by a totalitarian "brave new world" regime. The hero, according to Mr. Bradbury, is "a book burner who suddenly discovers that books are flesh-and-blood ideas and cry out silently when put to the torch."</p>
	<p><b>Ninth Grade Honors</b>  <i>Anthem</i>            Rand, Ayn            A dystopian novella that takes place at some future date when mankind has entered a dark age characterized by irrationality, collectivism, and socialistic thinking. Technological advancement is now carefully planned and the concept of individuality has been eliminated.</p>
	<p><b>Tenth Grade CP and Tenth Grade Honors</b>  <i>Lord of the Flies</i>            Golding, William            A story about a group of very ordinary boys marooned on a coral island. At first it seems as though it is great fun; but before long life on the island turns into a nightmare of panic and death. As ordinary standards of behavior collapse, the whole world the boys know collapses with them, and a primitive and terrible world is revealed beneath.</p>
	<p><b>11th Grade American Literature CP</b>  <i>Solo</i>            Kwame Alexander            Blade Morrison has one parent who is dead, another who's a rock legend, a girlfriend who has to keep their relationship secret, and a sister who straddles the line between super annoying and somewhat supportive. He lives under a cloud of fame, excess, and celebrity that shelters and imprisons him and drives him to places he never imagined, including a little village in Ghana. — Common Sense Media</p>

	<p><b>11th Grade AP Language &amp; Composition</b>  <i>The Overachievers: The Secret Lives of Driven Kids</i>  Alexandra Robbins  A journalist delivers a poignant, funny, riveting narrative that explores how our high-stakes educational culture has spiraled out of control, tackling hard-hitting issues such as the student and teacher cheating epidemic, over-testing, sports rage, and a cutthroat college admissions process. Amazon</p> <p><i>The Outliers</i>  Malcolm Gladwell  In this stunning new book, Malcolm Gladwell takes us on an intellectual journey through the world of "outliers"--the best and the brightest, the most famous and the most successful. He asks the question: what makes high-achievers different?  Amazon</p>
 	<p><b>12th Grade AP Literature &amp; Composition</b>  <i>1984</i>  Orwell, George.  Winston Smith toes the Party line, rewriting history to satisfy the demands of the Ministry of Truth. With each lie he writes, Winston grows to hate the Party that seeks power for its own sake and persecutes those who dare to commit thoughtcrimes. But as he starts to think for himself, Winston can't escape the fact that Big Brother is always watching. -Amazon</p> <p><i>Frankenstein</i>  Shelley, Mary  Few creatures of horror have seized readers' imaginations and held them for so long as the anguished monster of Mary Shelley's <i>Frankenstein</i>. The story of Victor Frankenstein's terrible creation and the havoc it caused has enthralled generations of readers and inspired countless writers of horror and suspense. Considering the novel's enduring success, it is remarkable that it began merely as a whim of Lord Byron's. -Amazon</p>
	<p><b>12th Grade British Literature CP</b>  <i>1984</i>  Orwell, George.  Winston Smith toes the Party line, rewriting history to satisfy the demands of the Ministry of Truth. With each lie he writes, Winston grows to hate the Party that seeks power for its own sake and persecutes those who dare to commit thoughtcrimes. But as he starts to think for himself, Winston can't escape the fact that Big Brother is always watching. Amazon</p>

## REQUIRED CHOICE BOOK READING INSTRUCTIONS

**Projects are due the first day of school**

9<sup>th</sup> CP and Honors, 10<sup>th</sup> CP and Honors, 11<sup>th</sup> CP English Classes,  
12<sup>th</sup> British Literature, choose **ONE** book from the list below (pages 9-25).

**Assessment:** Students demonstrate careful reading of these selections by **completing a project for each book** during the summer. (directions for project below).

**Why is \_\_\_\_\_ not on the list?**

*While trying to give students options that fit their interests and reading level, only books that have been rated by Accelerated Reader at an appropriate reading level are included.*

This list includes classic as well as modern Young Adult literature that is at least on the 8th grade reading level. The list includes works commonly cited on the Advanced Placement tests and in college English courses. Note that some books (usually marked with an “\*”) contain adult themes and/or profanity but are on the list because they are considered today as important works of literature for their themes, ideas, or writing styles. ***Please use parental guidance in making selections.***

### **Required Choice Book Projects**

**Assignment:**

- Students will create a ***PowerPoint Presentation for their Choice Book.***
- Presentations will be presented during the first week of school.
- Presentations will be submitted to the student’s Turnitin.com account during the first week of school.

### Presentation Requirements:

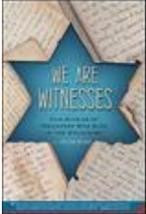
- **Limit the amount of text on each PowerPoint Slide.**
- Brief **SUMMARY** of the book (5-8 bullet points).
- A **FAVORITE PASSAGE/EXCERPT** that relates to a **THEME** in the book (minimum: four sentences /maximum: two paragraphs) and an explanation that is not listed on the PowerPoint slide but is shared during your presentation as to why you chose this passage- Note: this passage will be read aloud during your presentation, so practice reading it aloud!
- Provide an **EXPLANATION** as to how the story you read conforms in some way to the **THEME**. This information should be presented in bullet points and shared in more depth during the presentation. Include specific supporting textual evidence of the plot elements you identify—descriptions of events; character or narrative quotations; and literary features such as figurative language, imagery, or style.
- Analyze the **VALUE OF USING THE THEME**—for example, how does the theme reflect the struggle for identity? What is the author trying to convey about life, the world, etc. by using this theme? Provide a summary with bullet points and discuss more fully in your presentation.
- Review of the book you have read. Put these questions on your slide: What makes this book worth reading? **WOULD YOU RECOMMEND** this book to your friends? Why or why not? Provide the answers to these questions in your presentation. Do not include them on the slides.
- Include **INTERESTING VISUALS** that relate to your book. These should be pictures, drawings, or clip art that connect to the themes, literary elements, characters, symbols, or events in the book. Your visuals should add aesthetic appeal to your presentation.

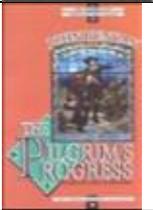
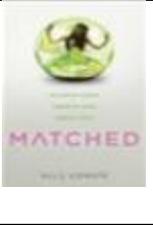
Your final product should be a **5-MINUTE PRESENTATION** that succinctly explains your discovery of the book’s thematic statement, how the book works as a whole (review), and a reading of your favorite passage and how it relates to the thematic statement. Be sure to include appropriate citations for the book when including material in support of the position you take. Use the Purdue University online writing lab as a resource for MLA style guide, reference, and formatting (<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>).

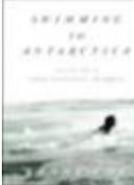
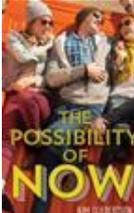
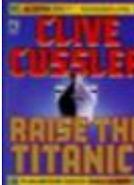
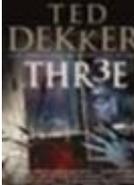
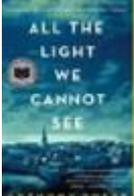
(adapted from fishersislandenglish.weebly.com)

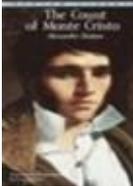
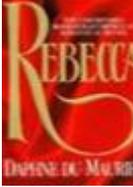
**Evaluation:** The Projects will be evaluated by the English teacher to determine if the assignment **MEET THE REQUIREMENTS** or **DO NOT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS**. If the student does not meet requirements as determined by his or her English teacher, he or she will be given an alternate assignment by the Principal.

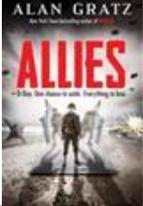
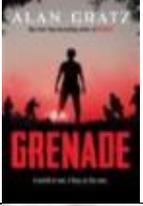
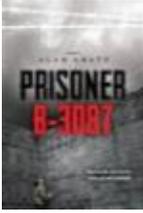
## HIGH SCHOOL LIST- REQUIRED CHOICE BOOK LIST

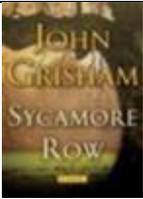
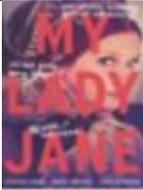
	<p><b><i>Midnight at the Electric</i></b> Anderson, Jodi Lynn Kansas, 2065: Adri has been handpicked to live on Mars, but weeks before launch, she discovers the journal of a girl who lived in her house more than a hundred years ago and is immediately drawn into the mystery surrounding her fate.</p>
	<p><b><i>The Red Queen (or others in this series)</i></b> Aveyard, Victoria When her latent supernatural powers manifest in front of a noble court, Mare, a thief in a world split between Red commoners and silver superhumans, assumes the role of lost silver princess before risking everything to help a growing rebellion. Book #1</p>
	<p><b><i>Go Tell It on the Mountain</i></b> Baldwin, James Fourteen-year-old John struggles against the environmental influences of Harlem.</p>
	<p><b><i>We Are Witnesses: Five Diaries of Teenagers Who Died in the Holocaust</i></b> Boas, Jacob Five teenagers during World War II living in different parts of Europe with very different lives. Being Jewish they were all under Hitler's twisted rule.</p>
	<p><b><i>Survivor's Club: The True Story of a Very Young Prisoner of Auschwitz</i></b> Bornstein, Michael Michael Bornstein, who at age four was one of the youngest children to be liberated from Auschwitz, shares the incredible story of his life, his family, and his Polish village. <b>Nonfiction</b></p>

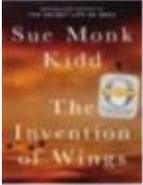
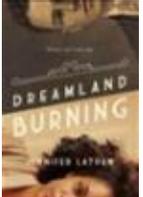
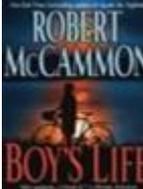
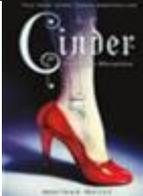
	<p><b><i>Shift</i></b>  Bradbury, Jennifer  When best friends Chris and Win go on a cross-country bicycle trek the summer after graduating and only one returns, the FBI wants to know what happened.</p>
	<p><b><i>The Pilgrim's Progress</i></b>  Bunyan, John  Christian's encounters with various trial and temptations on his journey to the Celestial City depicted in the seventeenth century.</p>
	<p><b><i>What to Say Next</i>*</b>  Buxbaum, Julie  When a friendship is sparked between popular Kit Lowell and isolated David Drucker, Kit asks David for his help figuring out the how and why of her father's tragic car accident.</p>
	<p><b><i>Premiere</i></b> (or other in this series)  Carlson, Melody  When two sisters get their own fashion-focused reality TV show, vivacious Paige is excited, but Erin, a Christian who is more interested in being behind the camera than in front of it, has problems with some of the things they are asked to do. Book #1</p>
	<p><b><i>A Cry in the Night</i></b>  Clark, Mary Higgins  Jenny's life and family are in danger when she gets too close to revealing some terrible secrets of the past.</p>
	<p><b><i>Matched</i></b>  Condie, Ally  Cassia has always had complete trust in the Society to make decisions for her, but when she is being paired with her ideal mate, a second face flashes on the screen, and Cassia begins to doubt the Society's infallibility. <b>(You may read any book in this series.)</b></p>

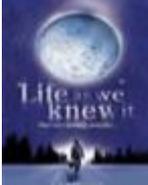
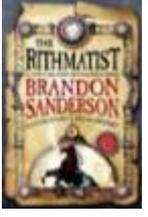
	<p><b><i>Swimming to Antarctica: Tales of a Long-Distance Swimmer</i></b> <b>Nonfiction</b></p> <p>Cox, Lynne</p> <p>This book describes the accomplishments of the world's most extraordinary distance swimmer and the emotional and spiritual need to swim that drives her.</p>
	<p><b><i>The Possibility of Now</i></b></p> <p>Culbertson, Kim</p> <p>After Mara James has a complete meltdown during an exam, she finds herself embarrassed by the incident and the viral video evidence and goes to live with her ski bum father in Squaw Valley.</p>
	<p><b><i>Raise the Titanic!</i></b></p> <p>Cussler, Clive</p> <p>In a daring gamble Dirk Pitt locates the "Titanic" and suddenly his crew is in deadly jeopardy.</p>
	<p><b><i>Thr3e</i></b></p> <p>Dekker, Ted</p> <p>Kevin Parson is drawn into a violent game of cat and mouse when a mysterious voice on his cell phone demands he confess his sin or risk the destruction of his home, family, career, and possibly even the country.</p>
	<p><b><i>Great Expectations</i></b></p> <p>Dickens, Charles</p> <p>A tiny orphan boy named Pip acquires a mysterious benefactor who sponsors him to become a gentleman. Years later, Pip confronts his past heartaches and illusions that his "great expectations" have brought upon him.</p>
	<p><b><i>All the Light We Cannot See</i></b></p> <p>Doerr, Anthony</p> <p>A blind French girl on the run from the German occupation and a German orphan-turned-Resistance tracker struggle with respective beliefs after meeting on the Brittany coast.</p>

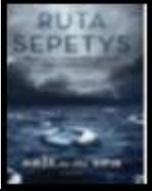
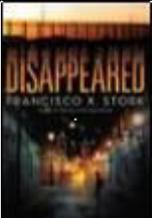
	<p><b><i>The Hound of the Baskervilles</i></b>  Doyle, Arthur Conan  Late one night, Sir Charles Baskerville is attacked, possibly by the Hound of the Baskervilles, a legendary creature that haunts the nearby town, outside his castle in Dartmouth, England. Sherlock Holmes, the world's greatest detective, is on the case.</p>
	<p><b><i>The Count of Monte Cristo</i></b>  Dumas, Alexandre (trans. &amp; abridged by Lowell Blair)  In this abridged edition, young sailor Edmund Dantes escapes from the island fortress where he has been imprisoned for treason, then sets out to discover the treasure of Monte Cristo and seek revenge against the people who falsely accused him.</p>
	<p><b><i>Rebecca</i></b>  Du Maurier, Daphne  The second Mrs. Maxim de Winter finds it difficult and frightening to live in the shadow of her predecessor, a situation that is exacerbated by her husband's moodiness and the presence of sinister housekeeper, Mrs. Danvers.</p>
	<p><b><i>Silas Marner</i></b>  Eliot, George  A bitter man living alone with his hoard of gold learns about the power of love when his riches are stolen and a beautiful child is left on his doorstep.</p>
	<p><b><i>Under a War-Torn Sky</i></b>  Elliott, L. M.  After his plane is shot down by Hitler's Luftwaffe, nineteen-year-old Henry Forester of Richmond, Virginia, strives to walk across occupied France, with the help of the French Resistance, in hopes of rejoining his unit.</p>

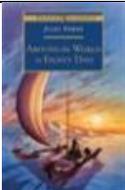
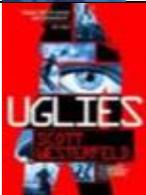
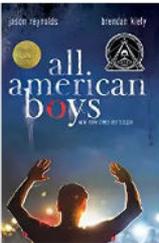
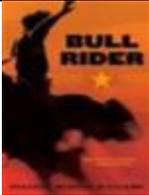
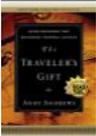
	<p><b><i>Ivory and Bone (or any book in the series)</i></b>  Eshbaugh, Julie  The only life Kol knows is hunting at the foot of the Great Ice with his brothers. Food is becoming scarce, and without another clan to align with, Kol, his family, and their entire group are facing an uncertain future. Book #1</p>
	<p><b><i>Obsidian Mirror</i></b>  Fisher, Catherine  When his father disappears while experimenting with a black mirror that is a portal to both the past and the future, Jake encounters obstacles when he tries to use the mirror to find his father. Book #1</p>
	<p><b><i>The Outcasts</i></b>  Flanagan, John  When the Skandian outcasts face off against the Wolves and the Sharks during training, they hope that their courage and cunning are enough to help them win the contest and find acceptance in Hallasholm. The plot contains violence. Book #1  <b><i>(You may read any book in this series.)</i></b></p>
	<p><b><i>Allies</i>*</b>  Gratz, Alan  This work of fiction, based on true events in six different operations in settings across Europe, tells of military and civilian heroes working together on D-Day to defeat the Nazis. The story contains mild profanity.</p>
	<p><b><i>Grenade</i>*</b>  Gratz, Alan  In April 1945, fourteen-year-old Hideki, who was drafted into the Blood and Iron Student Corps, is handed two grenades and told to kill American soldiers. He just wants to find his family. The story includes coarse language, slurs, and violence.</p>
	<p><b><i>Prisoner B-3087</i></b>  Gratz, Alan  Based on the true story of Jack and Ruth Gruener, this book shares a story of survival from the Nazi occupation of Kraków through a series of concentration camps to the final liberation of Dachau. The text contains disturbing descriptions of violence.</p>

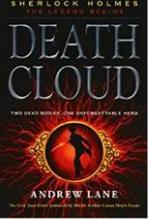
	<p><b><i>Sycamore Row</i></b>* Grisham, John Jake is thrust into a murder mystery after wealthy Seth Hubbard commits suicide and leaves his fortune to his African American maid, raising questions about the circumstances of his death. The plot contains profanity, sexual references, and violence.</p>
	<p><b><i>My Lady Jane</i></b> Hand, Cynthia Lady Jane Grey, age sixteen, is betrothed to a man who is sometimes a horse. Together, they try to save her cousin, King Edward, from those who wish him harm.</p>
	<p><b><i>The Lie Tree</i></b> Hardinge, Frances Fourteen-year-old Faith investigates the mysterious death of her father, who was involved in a scandal, and discovers a tree that feeds upon lies and gives those who eat its fruit visions of truth.</p>
	<p><b><i>The Thing with Feathers</i></b> Hoyle, McCall Emilie lives in fear that her recently adjusted meds will fail and she will seize at school. Eventually, the worst happens, and she must decide whether to withdraw to safety or follow a dead poet's advice and dwell in possibility.</p>
	<p><b><i>Monday's Not Coming</i></b>* Jackson, Tiffany D. Monday Charles is missing, and only Claudia seems to notice. When Monday doesn't turn up for the first day of school, Claudia's worried. When she doesn't show for the second day, or second week, Claudia knows something is wrong.</p>
	<p><b><i>Suite Scarlett</i></b> Johnson, Maureen Fifteen-year-old Scarlett is stuck working at her quirky family's historic hotel in New York for the summer, but her brother's attractive new friend and a seasonal guest who offers her an intriguing and challenging writing project improve her outlook.</p>

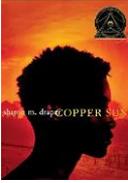
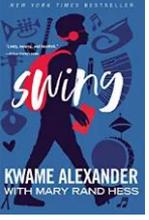
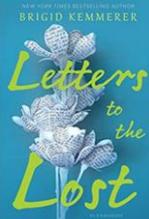
	<p><b><i>The Invention of Wings</i>*</b> Kidd, Sue Monk This story follows Hetty, a young slave, and Sarah, from a wealthy family, starting on Sarah's 11th birthday, when she is given ownership of Hetty, through the next 35 years of their lives. The plot contains sexual situations and graphic violence.</p>
	<p><b><i>Dreamland Burning</i>*</b> Latham, Jennifer Rowan finds a skeleton on her family's property, and investigating the brutal murder leads to painful discoveries. Alternating chapters tell the story of William, another teen grappling with the racial firestorm leading to the 1921 Tulsa race riots.</p>
	<p><b><i>The Sea-Wolf</i></b> London, Jack When Humphrey Van Weyden finds himself sailing to Japan aboard the "Ghost," he has to face weeks of brutality at the hands of Captain Wolf Larsen, until he decides to take desperate measures to save himself and the rest of the crew.</p>
	<p><b><i>Legend</i>*</b> Lu, Marie In a dark future, when North America has split into two warring nations, 15-year-olds famous criminal Day and prodigy June, the brilliant soldier hired to capture him, discover they have a common enemy. The plot contains graphic violence. Book #1</p>
	<p><b><i>Boy's Life</i></b> McCammon, Robert R. An eleven-year-old is plunged into a world of mystery and evil after he and his father witness the disposal of a murder victim on the outskirts of their idyllic Southern town.</p>
	<p><b><i>Cinder (or any book in the series)</i></b> Meyer, Marissa In this futuristic take on Cinderella, plague ravages the overcrowded Earth and Cinder, a gifted cyborg, becomes involved with handsome Prince Kai and must uncover secrets about her past in order to protect the world. The plot contains violence. Book #1 <b>(You may read any book in this series.)</b></p>

	<p><b><i>Life as We Knew It</i></b> Pfeffer, Susan Beth Through journal entries, sixteen-year-old Miranda describes her family's struggle to survive after a meteor hits the Moon, causing worldwide tsunamis, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions. Book #1 (<b><i>You may read any book in this series.</i></b>)</p>
	<p><b><i>Eragon</i></b>* Paolini, Christopher A 15-year-old boy of unknown lineage called Eragon, finds a mysterious stone that weaves his life into an intricate tapestry of destiny, magic, and power, peopled with dragons, elves, and monsters. The plot contains profanity and violence. Book #1 (<b><i>You may read any book in this series.</i></b>)</p>
	<p><b><i>The Shadow Queen</i></b> Redwine, C. J. This tale, inspired by SNOW WHITE, follows the adventures of Lorelai, an exiled princess who is being pursued by a king who is serving as the personal huntsman for evil queen Irina. The plot contains graphic violence. Book #1 of the <i>Ravenspire</i> series.</p>
	<p><b><i>Redeeming Love</i></b>* Rivers, Francine This retelling of a story from the Book of Hosea is set in California's gold country in 1850, where Angel, sold into prostitution as a child, must make peace with God before she feels free. The plot contains sexual situations and violence.</p>
	<p><b><i>Rithmatist</i></b> Sanderson, Brandon At age eight, David's father was killed by an Epic, a human with superAs wild chalklings threaten the American Isles and Rithmatists are humanity's only defense, Joel can only watch as Rithmatist students learn the magical art that he would do anything to practice.</p>
	<p><b><i>Steelheart</i></b>* Sanderson, Brandon At age eight, David's father was killed by an Epic, a human with superhuman powers, and now, ten years later, he joins the Reckoners, the only people who are trying to kill the Epics and end their tyranny. The plot contains graphic violence. Book #1</p>

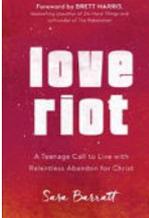
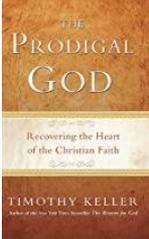
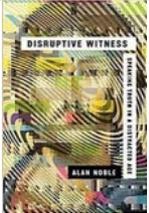
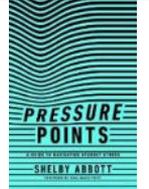
	<p><b><i>Salt to the Sea</i></b>*</p> <p>Sepetys, Ruta As World War II draws to a close, refugees try to escape the war's final dangers, only to find themselves aboard a ship with a target on its hull.</p>
	<p><b><i>The Alchemyst</i></b></p> <p>Scott, Michael While working at summer jobs, 15-year-old twins, Sophie and Josh, find themselves caught up in a deadly, centuries-old struggle between rival alchemists, Nicholas Flamel and John Dee, over the possession of secret formulas. Book #1 (<b><i>You may read any book in this series.</i></b>)</p>
	<p><b><i>Scythe</i></b></p> <p>Shusterman, Neal In a world where disease has been eliminated, the only way to die is to be gleaned by professional scythes. Two teens must compete to become a scythe, a position neither of them wants. The plot contains mild profanity and violence. Book #1 (<b><i>You may read any book in this series.</i></b>)</p>
	<p><b><i>Flygirl</i></b>*</p> <p>Smith, Sherri L. During World War II, a light-skinned African American girl "passes" for white in order to join the Women Airforce Service Pilots. The plot contains mild profanity and drinking.</p>
	<p><b><i>Kidnapped</i></b></p> <p>Stevenson, Robert Louis After he is kidnapped by his villainous uncle, a sixteen-year-old orphan escapes and becomes involved in the struggle of the Scottish Highlanders against English rule.</p>
	<p><b><i>Disappeared</i></b></p> <p>Stork, Francisco Sara is determined to expose the violent cartel involved in the kidnapping of girls, but now her family is being threatened and her younger brother is involved. Soon their only hope is to risk entering the United States.</p>

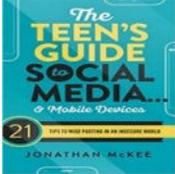
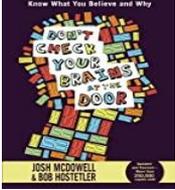
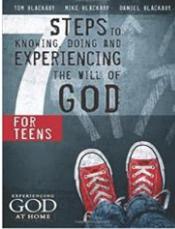
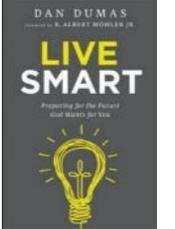
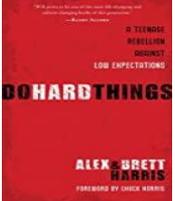
	<p><b><i>Around the World in 80 Days</i></b> Verne, Jules Phileas Fogg and his servant make a breathless world tour, overcoming wild misadventures and rescuing a beautiful Indian maharani.</p>
	<p><b><i>Uglies</i></b> Westerfeld, Scott In Tally's world, reaching 16 brings an operation that turns you from ugly to pretty and Tally's almost there, but when her friend runs away, Tally learns about a new side of pretty world and must choose between betrayal and never turning pretty. Book #1 <b>(You may read any book in this series.)</b></p>
	<p><b><i>All American Boys</i></b>* Reynolds, Jason A 2016 Coretta Scott King Author Honor book, and recipient of the Walter Dean Myers Award for Outstanding Children's Literature. In this <i>New York Times</i> bestselling novel, two teens—one black, one white—grapple with the repercussions of a single violent act that leaves their school, their community, and, ultimately, the country bitterly divided by racial tension- Amazon</p>
	<p><b><i>Bull Rider</i></b> Williams, Suzanne Morgan When his older brother, a bull-riding champion, returns from the Iraq War partially paralyzed, 14-year-old Cam takes a break from skateboarding to enter a bull-riding contest in hopes of winning the \$15,000 prize and motivating his depressed brother.</p>
	<p><b><i>The Sweet Life of Stella Madison</i></b> Zeises, Lara M. Seventeen-year-old Stella struggles with the separation of her renowned chef parents and writes a food column for the local paper even though she is a junk food addict. She has a boyfriend but finds herself attracted to another boy.</p>
	<p><b><i>The Traveler's Gift</i></b> Andy Andrews <i>The Traveler's Gift</i> offers a modern day parable of one man's choices—and the attitudes that make the difference between failure and success. -Amazon</p>

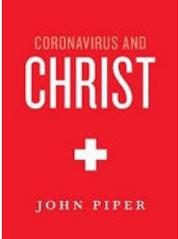
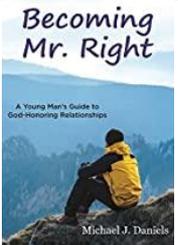
	<p><b><i>The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes</i></b> Collins, Suzanne</p> <p>It is the morning of the reaping that will kick off the tenth annual Hunger Games. In the Capitol, eighteen-year-old Coriolanus Snow is preparing for his one shot at glory as a mentor in the Games. The once-mighty house of Snow has fallen on hard times, its fate hanging on the slender chance that Coriolanus will be able to outcharm, outwit, and outmaneuver his fellow students to mentor the winning tribute. The odds are against him. -Amazon</p>
	<p><b><i>The Steep and Thorny Way</i></b>* Winters, Cat</p> <p>A thrilling reimagining of Shakespeare's <i>Hamlet</i>. 1920s Oregon is not a welcoming place for Hanalee Denney, the daughter of a white woman and an African American man. She has almost no rights by law, and the Ku Klux Klan breeds fear and hatred in even Hanalee's oldest friendships.</p>
	<p><b><i>Orphan Monster Spy</i></b> Killeen, Matt</p> <p>After her mother is shot at a checkpoint, fifteen-year-old Sarah finds herself on the run from the Nazis in Third Reich-ruled Germany. While trying to escape, Sarah meets a mysterious man with an ambiguous accent, a suspiciously bare apartment, and a lockbox full of weapons. He's part of the secret resistance against the Reich, and he needs her help. -Amazon</p>
	<p><b><i>Caraval</i></b> Garber, Stephanie</p> <p>The acclaimed <i>New York Times</i> bestseller! Welcome, welcome to <i>Caraval</i>—Stephanie Garber's sweeping tale of the unbreakable bond between two sisters. It's the closest you'll ever find to magic in this world. -Amazon</p>
	<p><b><i>Death Cloud (Young Sherlock Holmes)</i></b> Lane, Andrew</p> <p>It is the summer of 1868, and Sherlock Holmes is fourteen. On break from boarding school, he is staying with eccentric strangers—his uncle and aunt—in their vast house in Hampshire. When two local people die from symptoms that resemble the plague, Holmes begins to investigate what really killed them, helped by his new tutor, an American named Amyus Crowe. -Amazon</p>

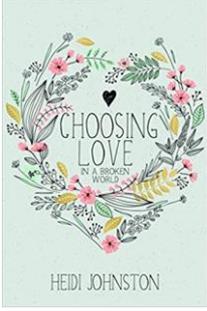
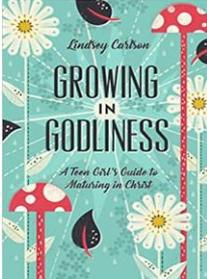
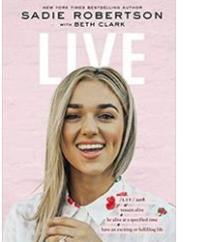
	<p><b>Copper Sun</b>  Draper, Sharon  In this “searing work of historical fiction” (<i>Booklist</i>), Coretta Scott King Award-winning author Sharon M. Draper tells the epic story of a young girl torn from her African village, sold into slavery, and stripped of everything she has ever known—except hope. -Amazon</p>
	<p><b>Girl in the Blue Coat</b>  Hesse, Monica  Amsterdam, 1943. Hanneke spends her days procuring and delivering sought-after black market goods to paying customers, her nights hiding the true nature of her work from her concerned parents, and every waking moment mourning her boyfriend, who was killed on the Dutch front lines when the Germans invaded. She likes to think of her illegal work as a small act of rebellion. -Amazon</p>
	<p><b>Swing</b>  Alexander, Kwame  In this YA novel in verse from bestselling authors Kwame Alexander and Mary Rand Hess (<i>Solo</i>), which <i>Kirkus</i> called “lively, moving, and heartfelt” in a starred review, Noah and Walt just want to leave their geek days behind and find “cool,” but in the process discover a lot about first loves, friendship, and embracing life ... as well as why Black Lives Matter is so important for all. Amazon</p>
	<p><b>Letters to the Lost*</b>  Kemmerer, Brigid  Juliet Young always writes letters to her mother, a world-traveling photojournalist. Even after her mother’s death, she leaves letters at her grave. It’s the only way Juliet can cope.  Declan Murphy isn’t the sort of guy you want to cross. In the midst of his court-ordered community service at the local cemetery, he’s trying to escape the demons of his past.</p>
	<p><b>Dear Martin</b>  Stone, Nic  Justyce McAllister is a good kid, an honor student, and always there to help a friend—but none of that matters to the police officer who just put him in handcuffs. Despite leaving his rough neighborhood behind, he can’t escape the scorn of his former peers or the ridicule of his new classmates.- Amazon</p>

## SPIRITUAL EMPHASIS – CHOICE SELECTION

	<p><b><i>Love Riot: A Teenage Call to Live with Relentless Abandon for Christ</i></b> by Sara Barratt</p> <p>Teen author Sara Barratt calls on her generation to reject apathy and embrace a daring, costly faith. Not content with safe religion that demands nothing of us, Sara shows teens how they can stop giving in to the status quo and devote themselves fully to Christ.</p>
	<p><b><i>The Prodigal God: Recovering the Heart of the Christian Faith</i></b> by Timothy Keller</p> <p>Two sons, one who kept the rules religiously and one who broke them all. One Father who loved both lost sons beyond anything they could imagine. Discover how deep and far God's grace goes. Timothy Keller opens your eyes to the powerful message of Jesus' best-known—and least understood—parable. God's radical love for sinners of every kind.</p>
	<p><b><i>Disruptive Witness: Speaking Truth in a Distracted Age</i></b> by Alan Noble</p> <p>We live in a distracted, secular age. We are increasingly addicted to habits - and devices - that distract and "buffer" us from substantive reflection and deep engagement with the world. <i>Disruptive Witness</i> casts a new vision for the evangelical imagination.</p>
	<p><b><i>Pressure Points: A Guide to Navigating Student Stress</i></b> by Shelby Abbott</p> <p>This humorous, poignant, and conversational guide invites young men and women to practically apply gospel solutions to all of life's pressures, big or small. (Intended for college students.)</p>

	<p><b><i>The Teen's Guide to Social Media</i></b> by Jonathan McKee</p> <p>This book will help you navigate the digital world with 21 refreshingly honest and humorous tips that will not only inform, but that also just might change the way you think about your social media interaction.</p>
	<p><b><i>Don't Check Your Brains at the Door</i></b> by Josh McDowell</p> <p>Teens will be better equipped to stick with their faith as they begin to understand why they believe and why it's important to make a lifetime commitment to Christ and the church. The book includes answers that make sense for the toughest of questions.</p>
	<p><b><i>Seven Steps to Knowing, Doing and Experiencing the Will of God for Teens</i></b> by Tom Blackaby</p> <p><i>Seven Steps to Knowing and Doing the Will of God for Teens</i> provides students with relevant spiritual direction as they move toward adulthood. The authors utilize fun formatting with cartoon illustrations, jokes, real-life stories, and graphically engaging treatments to bring focus to their readers.</p>
	<p><b><i>Live Smart: Preparing for the Future God Wants for You</i></b> by Dan Dumas</p> <p>Many young people have high expectations for themselves and want their lives to matter. This book presents practical tools and biblical advice to middle school and high school-aged readers so they can make the most of their youth. It covers everything from making the right friendships to how to think about education and how to invest in their relationships with God.</p>
	<p><b><i>Do Hard Things</i></b> by Alex Harris and Brett Harris</p> <p>Most people don't expect you to understand what we're going to tell you in this book. And even if you understand, they don't expect you to care. And even if you care, they don't expect you to do anything about it. And even if you do something about it, they don't expect it to last. We do. Alex and Brett</p>

	<p><b>Coronavirus and Christ</b> by John Piper</p> <p>What is God doing through the coronavirus? Piper offers six biblical answers to that question, showing us that God is at work in this moment in history.</p>
	<p><b>Becoming Mr. Right</b> By Michael Daniels</p> <p>This book provides a clear roadmap for young men as they pursue God-honoring relationships. You will learn how to apply Scripture to the important issues in life, and realize the goal of Matthew 6:33: "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."</p>
	<p><b>The Guy's Guide to God, Girls, and the Phone in Your Pocket</b> by Jonathan McKee</p> <p><i>The Guy's Guide</i> will encourage your faith, challenge you spiritually, and give you real-life advice how to live out your faith in today's highly secularized culture, with distractions lurking around every corner. . .and just a click away.</p>
	<p><b>Revealed: Discovering Your True Identity in Christ for Teen Boys and Young Men</b> by Alex Kendrick</p> <p><i>Who am I?</i> It's a question you might ask yourself a lot, and this book for teen guys and young men will lead you through an investigation to find the answers. <i>Revealed</i> will give you answers about who you are and where you're going, leading you to uncover your true Christ-shaped identity.</p>

	<p><b><i>Choosing Love in a Broken World</i></b>  <b>By Heidi Johnston</b>  This is a book about love. It's about how you choose to love and who you choose to love, but most of all it's about the God who first chose to love you and the ways his incredible love can shape our own relationships. In a world where teenage girls are bombarded by different messages about love, dating and marriage, God's voice can get lost in the noise. Take some time to discover the kind of love God wants for you.</p>
	<p><b><i>Growing in Godliness: A Teen Girl's Guide to Maturing in Christ</i></b>  <b>By Lindsey Carlson</b>  Your teen years matter. Of all the ways you're learning and changing during the busy teenage years, your growth in Christ is the most important. God intends to use your teen years as a launching pad into a lifelong pursuit of looking more like Jesus. This book will help you prioritize your Christian growth/</p>
	<p><b><i>Live</i></b>  <b>By Sadie Robertson</b>  <b>Bestselling author and popular social media presence Sadie Robertson addresses life's weightiest matters and choices in fun, practical, and biblical ways and leads readers to engage with God's truth and light in a world that is growing more and more confusing.</b></p>
	<p><b><i>No Such as Can't</i></b>  <b>By Tyler Sexton</b>  There are many books about overcoming obstacles, but this quintessential story of victory over limitations is unique. How many doctors have cerebral palsy? Not many. Yet this disability was part of the Great Physician's plan for Tyler Sexton. Because of it, Tyler has become a role model for others facing adversity, including his patients. Through this inspiring true story, people will be encouraged to face adversity with hope, determination, and the strength of Christ.</p>

## How are Reading Selections Made?

From the time of the Reformation, a great deal of emphasis has been placed on literacy for all people. The reformers believed that everyone should be able to read the scripture, and thus understand and teach others. They believed that all students needed to read and study literature and history so that they “hear of the doings and sayings of the entire world, and how things went with various cities, kingdoms, princes, men, and women, etc. They could in a short time set before themselves in a mirror the character, life, counsels, and purposes—successful and unsuccessful—of the whole world from the beginning; based on which they could then draw the proper inferences and in the fear of God take their own place in the stream of human events” (Martin Luther). Clearly, reading is an important part of our lives. It is important in a practical everyday sense, but also in a cultural sense. We have the responsibility of caring for creation and redeeming our culture (Genesis 1:26-31). We cannot, however, care for something we do not understand. God has chosen to communicate to us through the written word in the Bible. God has also chosen to give us written communication by which we pass down history, communicate arguments and worldviews, and express our humanity creatively and imaginatively. There is no better way to understand what someone believes than by studying what they have written.

In recent years, educators have been concerned that reading is declining in our society. In response, they have re-emphasized reading comprehension in our schools and expectations of strong reading comprehension in higher education. For example, the SAT will change this year to place a greater emphasis on critical reading with longer and more difficult reading selections. Others, like E. D. Hirsch and Dianne Ravitch, have decried our loss of cultural literacy. There are a variety of strategies for helping students develop strong reading comprehension skills. However, ultimately all include (1) regularly working through appropriately challenging texts and (2) discussing, thinking about, and writing about what you read. The path to strong reading comprehension, cultural literacy, understanding and impacting our world, and, yes, even strong verbal SAT scores include becoming a strong reader who has experienced a variety of literature.

Keeping these ideas and the goal of developing strong widely read students the faculty of FPD put a significant amount of work into choosing reading selections. Most often the process begins with the classroom teacher. The teacher makes selections in consultation with his or her department that are appropriate for the level of students and the curriculum concerns being addressed. As Curriculum Director, I work with departments when questions arise or if teachers desire help finding the right choice. As I look over the big picture of the curriculum, I make sure we do not have duplications, or that we are not missing a genre, etc. As we look at required reading selections, we consider the following concerns: (1) relevance to curriculum, (2) importance or cultural significance, (3) readability, (4) objectionable content, and what I call (5) the big picture.

### RELEVANCE TO CURRICULUM

Our students should work through a *comprehensive variety* of literature including different periods, genres, author backgrounds, purposes, places of origin, and worldviews, and traditions. Understanding that “all truth is God’s truth” and thus that we ultimately deal

with one integrated curriculum, we often make *interdisciplinary selections*. In elementary school, for example, we often select literature related to topics in science or regions the students are studying in geography. We may select books because of the *issues raised*. *Frankenstein*, for example, is an excellent vehicle for raising current biological science issues such as cloning and stem cell research.

### **CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE**

We read so that we might understand God and His works, ourselves and our relationship and responsibilities to God and our fellow men, and our culture and world around us. Understanding our culture involves not only experiential participation in the current but also knowledge of the past. *Recognized classics* in literature help us to see where our culture has come from and why we are where we are today. Classics give us a rich vocabulary of images and common knowledge that helps us communicate vivid ideas. Consider ideas like an Achilles' heel, Pandora's box, Icarus flying too high, Sisyphus rolling his stone to the top of the hill for eternity, the tortoise and the hare, or David and Goliath. Ideas from classical literature and the Bible find their way regularly in our common discourse.

Studying *works of modern importance* help us to learn to understand and engage our culture. Most of our students will attend secular universities and encounter texts that are sometimes openly and often subtly hostile to the Christian faith. The best way to learn to recognize and confront these ideas is with the help of a competent Christian teacher. Thus, particularly in the junior and senior years, our students read important contemporary works.

### **OBJECTIONABLE CONTENT**

Our students need to be prepared to engage our culture in redemptive ways. They need to be able to recognize and challenge ideas raised up against their faith (II Corinthians 10:4, 5). The best way to learn to confront these situations is to address them with a competent Christian teacher. We do have students in the upper grades read texts that may even be opposed to a Christian world-and-life view. But, still this does not mean any text would be open for our use in the classroom. The reading selection should not contain objectionable material that is present for no other purpose than for its own sake. Further, the material should not be excessively explicit. Generally, the teacher will be aware of any objectionable material before assigning the text, will have an explicit purpose and set of objectives for the text, and have a plan for helping students deal with any objectionable material. For these reasons, a book that may be appropriate for reading during the Page 37 school year may not be appropriate for summer reading. **THE BIG PICTURE** In addition to these considerations, we place reading assignments in the context of a big picture. The length and difficulty of reading assignments are weighed against the student's overall workload. For example, our outside reading requirements in social studies, science, and mathematics are spread over different quarters. Students need to work through books that are challenging because of their reading level, the issues raised in the content, and at times the length of the book. We also understand students should read for enjoyment as well. We choose some selections with this in mind and are currently working to incorporate more self-selection during the school year and especially during the summer.