Dear Students:

While you are spending this summer relaxing and enjoying a well-deserved vacation, include reading as part of your plans. We gathered some titles that have special appeal to Poolesville students. You may select a book from the recommended list or substitute a similar one of your own choice. Following the recommended list are several websites which are tailored to student reading. You may opt to choose a book from these sites.

After reading, gather your notes and respond as a New York Times reviewer for your book selection. Though your English teachers will be collecting one review card the first week of school to use, college bound students should read three or more books over the summer to maintain critical thinking skills needed to be successful in challenging classes. Summer reading will be graded for completion and used as a part of instruction introducing you to concepts studied in English, from finding and citing text evidence to avoiding plagiarism.

Directions:

1. Grade 9, 10, 11, and 12 students who will be taking English honors or regular courses may select and read one book from the 2010 recommended Summer Reading list. Students may substitute a suitable book of choice.
2. All students must complete their book review cards for each text they read and give them to their English teachers on the first day of school in August. Honors students should complete this card based on a book with an “*” or one of comparable literary merit.
3. Magnet and Advanced Placement (AP) students must check with their instructors for course specific summer reading assignments. In the case of AP English courses for juniors and seniors, students will be assigned other texts and responses, so they should not choose from this list. They will need to procure the book titles and assignments from their AP English teachers.
4. The recommended books on the Summer Reading list are intended to supplement curriculum learning objectives, stimulate interest in reading and promote basic writing skills. All listed books have been approved for Montgomery County Public School libraries.
5. Parents should guide their sons and daughters in selecting books that conform to individual family values. Parents are encouraged to review the recommended list and, in the event of a conflict with the texts, parents may substitute a similar, suitable alternative text at an appropriate reading level.
Complete your book review on a 5x8 index card in your own handwriting and return it to your teacher on the due date.

**Summer Reading Card**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name________________________</th>
<th>Grade___</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teacher______________________</td>
<td>Period____</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Book Title:**

**Author:**

**Place of Publication:**

**Publisher:**

**Date of Publication:**

Rate the book you have read according the ideas presented and quality of writing. Provide text evidence on the reverse side of this card to support your rating.

- ★★★★★ An excellent book that provides important insights into human experience.
- ★★★ A good book that was a worthwhile read.
- ★★★ An average book that had positive/negative aspects.
- ★★ A below average book that should be dropped from the reading list.

**Brief Summary:**

On the reverse side of this card (1) directly quote three key concepts from the book that support your book rating, (2) cite page numbers and (3) include your commentary on why, in your opinion, each idea is important. (See example.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concept from text/ Page #</th>
<th>Commentary</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;But once war is forced upon us, there is no other alternative than to... bring it to a swift end&quot; (120).</td>
<td>Douglas MacArthur's comments apply to debate over current U.S. foreign military involvement. This book provides evidence that those who don't learn from the lessons of history are doomed to repeat it.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Fiction (General Fiction, Science Fiction, Mystery, Romance, and Classics)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Pages</th>
<th>Genre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Blue Sword</td>
<td>Robin McKinley</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>Science Fiction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candor</td>
<td>Pam Bachorz</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>2010/11 Black-Eyed Susan nominee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evening is the Whole Day</td>
<td>Preeta Samarasan</td>
<td>340</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Don Quixote</em></td>
<td>Miguel De Cervantes</td>
<td>940</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>A Farewell to Arms</em></td>
<td>Ernest Hemingway</td>
<td>304</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finding Nouf</td>
<td>Zoe Ferraris</td>
<td>305</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flygirl</td>
<td>Sherri L. Smith</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>2010/11 Black-Eyed Susan nominee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Hot Dish</em></td>
<td>Connie Brockway</td>
<td>417</td>
<td>Humorous Romance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>The Hunger Games</em></td>
<td>Suzanne Collins</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>2010/11 Black-Eyed Susan nominee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Invisible Man</em></td>
<td>Ralph Ellison</td>
<td>572</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>The Misanthrope</em></td>
<td>Jean-Baptiste Moliere</td>
<td>400</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A recently orphaned young lady moves to the desert area of the continent Damar. By chance she locks eyes with Corlath, the Hill-King, who had come to visit the residency. It was, perhaps, fate, but it changes their lives forever.

In the town of Candor, Florida, everything is perfect -- too perfect. Teens respect their elders and do as they're told because they are controlled by subliminal messages. But there's one holdout: Oscar, the son of the town's founder, who has mastered the art of combating messages and getting kids out.

Don Quixote chronicles the famous picaresque adventures of the noble knight-errant Don Quixote of La Mancha and his faithful squire, Sancho Panza, as they travel through sixteenth-century Spain.

The realities of war —this is an American soldier’s story of his life as an ambulance driver during World War I.

A young Saudi girl disappears before her marriage and the family hires Nayir al-Sharqi, a desert guide, to find her.

18-year-old Ida Mae Jones, a Louisiana girl who longs to be a pilot, in December 1941, on the eve of America's entrance into World War II. She has two huge strikes against her--she is competent, black, female pilot in racist America where she is denied her license because she is a woman.

She’s the next TV host – if the man who carved her face in butter when she was the “Butter Princess” keeps mum.

In a not-too-distant future, the United States of America has collapsed and is replaced by Panem, a country divided into the Capitol and 12 districts. Each year, two young representatives from each district are selected by lottery to participate in The Hunger Games: participants are forced to eliminate their competitors, literally, with all citizens required to watch.

The nameless narrator of the novel describes growing up in a black community in the South, attending a college from which he is expelled, moving to New York and becoming the chief spokesman of the Harlem branch of “the Brotherhood,” and retreating amid violence and confusion to the basement lair of the Invisible Man he imagines himself to be.

Society itself is indicted and the impurity of its critic’s motives is exposed.
* Monkey Bridge by Lan Cao 260 pages
Just months before the Communists roll into Saigon in 1975, Mai Ngyuen, the young Vietnamese narrator of Monkey Bridge, is packed off to the U.S. Mai and her widowed mother escape the terrible aftermath of the war, but while Mai takes readily to American life, her mother, haunted by her losses, recoils from the place she calls "the great brand-new."

The Mortal Instruments (series of three) by Cassandra Clare 485 pages Science Fiction
Book One- City of Bones: Teenager Clary discovers she can see supernatural beings that no one else can, gets drawn into the world of the "Shadowhunters" (teens who kill demons and monsters) and learns that her mother is somehow mysteriously connected to all the strange happenings around her.

* My Antonia by Willa Cather 290 pages
Set in Nebraska in the late 19th century, this tale of the spirited daughter of a Bohemian immigrant family planning to farm on the untamed land comes to us through the romantic eyes of Jim Burden.

Necropolis (Gatekeeper series) by Anthony Horowitz 389 pages Science Fiction
As the fourth novel in the Gatekeepers series begins, the world is under the greatest threat it's ever known.

Netherland by Joseph O'Neill 256 pages National Book Award Winner
This is the story of one man’s rebirth in multicultural New York soon after 9/11.

* One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich by Alexander Solzhenitsyn 208 pages
This brutal depiction of life in a Stalinist camp is a moving tribute to man's triumph of will over relentless dehumanization.

*Persuasion* by Jane Austen 250 pages
Anne does not marry Captain Wentworth, who has no fortune nor ancestry. They meet again seven years later.

Pop by Gordon Gorman 272 pages 2010/11 Black-Eyed Susan nominee
After moving to a new town, Marcus strikes up a friendship with Charlie Popovich, a former pro football player. As the two grow closer, Marcus learns that Charlie has early onset Alzheimer's disease as a result of suffering head injuries during his career.

* A Prayer for Owen Meany by John Irving 672 pages
In the summer of 1953, two 11-year-old boys--best friends--are playing in a Little League baseball game in New Hampshire. One of the boys hits a foul ball that kills his best friend's mother. Owen Meany believes he didn't hit the ball by accident.

* Pygmalion by George Bernard Shaw 154 pages
An idealistic professor transforms an unsophisticated Cockney girl into a refined young lady in this classic drama set in turn-of-the-century London.

* Snow Falling on Cedars by David Guterson 345 pages
Set on an island in the straits north of Puget Sound, in Washington, where everyone is either a fisherman or a berry farmer, the story is nominally about a murder trial. But since it is set in the 1950s, lingering memories of World War II, internment camps and racism fuel suspicion of a Japanese-American fisherman, a lifelong resident of the islands.

* The Sound and the Fury by William Faulkner 464 pages
Depicting the gradual disintegration of the Compson family through four fractured narratives, the novel explores intense, passionate family relationships where self-centeredness replaces love.

The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie by Alan Bradley 373 pages Mystery
Flavia de Luce: chemist, tortures older sisters, pest, Dad’s defender, and novice detective.
* **Tom Jones**  by Henry Fielding  540 pages  
A foundling of mysterious parentage brought up by Mr. Allworthy on his country estate, Tom Jones is deeply in love with the seemingly unattainable Sophia Western, the beautiful daughter of the neighboring squire.

**Tree of Smoke**  by Dennis Johnson  614 pages  National Book Award Nominee  
An intelligence officer in Vietnam in the 1960s is drawn into an operation that tests his skills and grip on reality.

**The Walk**  by Richard Paul Evans  289 pages  
To put his life in perspective, an entrepreneur decides to walk across America after losing his business and his wife.

## Non-Fiction, Biographies, and Memoirs

**And One More Thing Before You Go**  by Maria Shriver  62 pages  
This book, expanded from a graduation speech, presents an inspirational guide that emphasizes the importance of utilizing one's greatest gifts and shortcomings to provide crucial stepping stones toward a happy, fulfilled life.

**Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life**  by Barbara Kingsolver  400 pages  
In her first full-length nonfiction narrative, bestselling author Kingsolver opens readers' eyes in a hundred new ways to an old truth: you are what you eat. The bestselling author returns with a wise and compelling celebration of family, food, nature, and community.

**Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking**  by Malcolm Gladwell  320 pages  
Blink is a book about how we think without thinking, about choices that seem to be made in an instant -- in the blink of an eye -- that actually aren't as simple as they seem.

**The Glass Castle: A Memoir**  by Jeanette Walls  288 pages  
An MSNBC online contributor, Walls recalls her childhood of poverty and bullying as the daughter of an alcoholic.

**The Innocent Man: Murder and Injustice in a Small Town**  by John Grisham  448 pages  
Filled with 11th-hour drama, Grisham's first work of nonfiction reads like a page-turning legal thriller. It is a book that will terrify anyone who believes in the presumption of innocence.

**The Last Lecture**  by Randy Pausch  224 pages  
Based on the extraordinary final lecture by Carnegie Mellon University professor Pausch, given after he discovered he had pancreatic cancer, this book inspires readers to live each day with purpose and joy.

**Outcasts United**  by Warren St. John  307 pages  *Maryland One Book 2010*  
In Clarkston, GA, three soccer teams composed of refugee boys are coached by Luma Mufleh, an American-educated Jordanian woman.

**Shop Class as Soulcraft: An Inquiry Into the Value of Work**  by Matthew Crawford  246 pages  
Philosopher and motorcycle mechanic Crawford presents a fascinating, important analysis of the value of hard work and manufacturing.

## Sports

**The Blind Side: Evolution of a Game**  by Michael Lewis  299 pages  
The young man at the center of this extraordinary and moving story will one day be among the most highly paid athletes in the NFL. Plucked from the mean streets by a wealthy family, he takes up football and turns out to possess the priceless combination of size, speed, and agility needed to guard the quarterback's greatest vulnerability: his blind side.

**Born to Run**  by Christopher McDougall  287 pages  
This is a tribute to the human love of running. If you're a runner, this is your book.
In the summer of 1950, a most unlikely group was assembled to represent its country in the first soccer World Cup since World War II. The Americans were outsiders to the sport, the underdogs of the event, a 500-to-1 long shot.

**The Game of Their Lives: The Untold Story of the World Cup’s Biggest Upset** by Geoffrey Douglas 176 pages

**Go Big or Go Home** by Will Hobbs 185 pages
Two teenage extreme sportsmen find a meteor and supernatural powers.

**Shaun White** by Mike Kennedy 48 pages
Life and career, including X-games, of the famous snowboarder.

**Swim the Fly** by Don Calame 345 pages
Three 15 year old swimmers determine a summer goal.

**Venus and Serena** by Venus Williams 133 pages
Subtitle explains this book: Serving from the hip, ten rules for living, loving, and winning.

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**The following are some websites to explore with additional book selections:**

Montgomery County Public Library's Teensite
[http://montgomerycountymd.libguides.com/teensite](http://montgomerycountymd.libguides.com/teensite)

Barnes & Noble Bookstore

Borders Bookstore
[http://www.borders.com/online/store/MediaView_summerreading](http://www.borders.com/online/store/MediaView_summerreading)

Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) Teens' Top Ten Nominations

Hornbook podcasts
[http://www.hbook.com/podcast/default.asp#summer](http://www.hbook.com/podcast/default.asp#summer)