Dear Students:

While you are spending this summer relaxing and enjoying a well-deserved vacation, include reading as a part of your plan. 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, 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 concepts studied in English.

**Directions:**

1. Students may select and read one book from the 2012 recommended Summer Reading list. Students may substitute a suitable book of choice.
2. All students must complete a book review card for each text they read submit them to their English teachers on the first day of school in August.
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

Name________________________________ Grade___
Teacher________________________________ Period_____

Book Title:______________________________________ Author:
Place of Publication:_____________________________ Publisher:
Date of Publication:

rate the book you have read according to 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>
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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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### SUMMER READING LIST—POOLESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

**Fiction (General Fiction, Science Fiction, Mystery, Romance, and Classics)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Pages</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abandon</td>
<td>Meg Cabot</td>
<td>320</td>
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<tr>
<td>Across the Universe</td>
<td>Beth Revis</td>
<td>416</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</td>
<td>Sherman Alexie</td>
<td>288</td>
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<td>Big Girl Small</td>
<td>Rachel DeWoskin</td>
<td>304</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Blue Sword</td>
<td>Robin McKinley</td>
<td>272</td>
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<tr>
<td>Candor</td>
<td>Pam Bachorz</td>
<td>256</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clockwork Prince (“Clockwork Angel” series)</td>
<td>Cassandra Clare</td>
<td>528</td>
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<tr>
<td>Don Quixote</td>
<td>Miguel De Cervantes</td>
<td>940</td>
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<tr>
<td>A Farewell to Arms</td>
<td>Ernest Hemingway</td>
<td>304</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hate List</td>
<td>Jennifer Brown</td>
<td>432</td>
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<tr>
<td>Invisible Man</td>
<td>Ralph Ellison</td>
<td>572</td>
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<tr>
<td>My Antonia</td>
<td>Willa Cather</td>
<td>290</td>
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*Abandon* by Meg Cabot
A dark, fantastical story about this world… and the underworld.

*Across the Universe* by Beth Revis
Seventeen-year-old Amy joins her parents as frozen cargo aboard the vast spaceship Godspeed and expects to awaken on a new planet, three hundred years in the future. Never could she have known that her frozen slumber would come to an end fifty years too soon and that she would be thrust into the brave new world.

*The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie
The story of Junior, a budding cartoonist growing up on the Spokane Indian Reservation, who decides to attend and all-white high school where the only other Indian is the school mascot.

*Big Girl Small* by Rachel DeWoskin
A coming-of-age novel that stuffs Holden Caulfield right back into his dusty museum case and shows us the rawness and dark humor of today’s teens.

*The Blue Sword* by Robin McKinley
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.

*Candor* by Pam Bachorz
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.

*Clockwork Prince (“Clockwork Angel” series)* by Cassandra Clare
In this trilogy second, Clare blends societal restraint and otherworldly battle into a steamy drama.

*Don Quixote* by Miguel De Cervantes
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.

*A Farewell to Arms* by Ernest Hemingway
The realities of war —this is an American soldier’s story of his life as an ambulance driver during World War I.

*Hate List* by Jennifer Brown
A story of a Columbine-type shooting, told through the voice of the student killer’s girlfriend.

*Invisible Man* by Ralph Ellison
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 to the basement lair of the Invisible Man he imagines himself to be.

*The Misanthrope* by Jean-Baptiste Moliere
Society itself is indicted and the impurity of its critic’s motives is exposed.

*My Antonia* by Willa Cather
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.

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.

Ready Player One by Ernest Cline  384 pages
High-energy cyber-quest that’s packed with action, puzzles, nerdy romance, and 80s nostalgia.

Robopocalypse by Daniel H. Wilson  416 pages
A terrifying sci-fi tale of humanity’s desperate stand against a robot uprising.

Salvage the Bones by Jesslyn Ward  288 pages  2011 National Book Award Winner
A timeless tale of a family who regains its humanity in the face of loss caused by hurricane Katrina.

A Secret Kept by Tatiana de Rosnay  352 pages
The story of a modern family and the invisible ties that hold it together.

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.

Streams of Babel by Carol Plum-Ucci  432 pages
Is that puddle of water on a street in a New York town harless or is it connected to recent deaths? Teens, computer expertise, and detective work are put to the task.

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.
Unbroken by Laura Hillenbrand 496 pages
Inspiring World War II story of one man’s survival and resilience despite a series of catastrophes almost too incredible to be believed.

When the Killing’s Done by T.C. Boyle 384 pages
Environmental theme set on the Channel Islands. Park rangers vs. PETA-type activist, but neither is all good or all bad.

Will Grayson, Will Grayson by John Green 336 pages
Two Chicago kids who share the same name figure out how to be themselves and realize that understanding who you are doesn’t stop when you graduate from high school.

Non-Fiction, Biographies, and Memoirs

Always Looking Up by Michael J. Fox 288 pages
Instead of building walls around himself, Fox developed a personal policy of engagement and discovery; an emotional, psychological, intellectual, and spiritual outlook that has served him throughout his struggle with Parkinson’s disease.

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.

Fascinating Fibonaccis (Mystery and Magic in Numbers) by Trudi Garland 103 pages
Explore Fibonacci numbers, ratios and their occurrence in natural phenomena.

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.

Leaving Microsoft to Change the World: An Entrepreneur’s Odyssey to Educate the World’s Children by John Wood 304 pages
A marketing executive at Microsoft vacations in mountainous Nepal and finds a new mission. He launches Room to Read, an organization that has developed a network of thousands of schools and libraries in poverty-plagued locales throughout Africa and Asia.

Onward: How Starbucks Fought for Its Life without Losing Its Soul by Howard Schultz 384 pages
Starbucks CEO traces his own journey to help his company reclaim its original customer-centric values and mission while aggressively innovating and embracing the changing landscape of technology.

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.
Sugar Changed the World: A story of Magic, Spice, Slavery, Freedom and Science by Marc Aronson 176 pages

The story of how one product allows us to see the grand currents of world history in new ways.

Written in Bone: Buried Lives of Jamestown and Colonial Maryland by Sally M. Walker 144 pages

This book offers an incredible look at how ancient bones can reveal the details about the daily lives of colonial Americans.

### 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.

The Book of Basketball: The NBA According to the Sports Guy by Bill Simmons 752 pages

Nowhere in the roundball universe will you find another single volume that covers as much in such depth as this wildly opinionated and thoroughly entertaining look at the past, present, and future of pro basketball.

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.

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

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.

Whale Talk by Chris Crutcher 304 pages

A group of misfits brought together by T.J. Jones (the J is redundant) to find their places in a school that has no place for them, the Cutter All Night Mermen struggle to carve out their own turf.

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

- Barnes & Noble Bookstore

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

- Goodreads
  [http://www.goodreads.com](http://www.goodreads.com)

- Guys Read
  [http://www.guysread.com/books](http://www.guysread.com/books)

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

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

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