



Welcome to Ross Middle School,

As a Northside student, we ask that you read at least one novel of **your choice** this summer. By spending time reading, you will expand your vocabulary, give yourself examples of great writing, deepen your critical thinking skills, and build your focus and imagination.

There is no other assignment than to read and be ready to discuss your book when school starts.

The list below gives you some ideas of books that you might find interesting or give you a place to start looking. Remember, you can choose whichever book you wish to read - it does not have to be on the list below. The novels marked by an asterisk (*) indicate books on Northside's approved book list. If you are interested in other titles not on the approved book list, we encourage you to do some research and speak with your family before selecting a title.

Please email **Ana Nuñez** at ana.nunez@nisd.net with any questions.

You can check out digital books through your school's library on Sora, Libby, or the San Antonio Public Library. Happy Reading!

****Summer reading is required for Advanced ELA in grades 6-8 but open to all students.***

Suggested Book Titles by Popular Topics

What's Love Got To Do With It? (Romance)

- ★ *Beastly* by Alex Flinn*
- ★ *Drama* by Raina Telgemeir
- ★ *The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora* by Pablo Cartaya*
- ★ *Shug* by Jenny Han*
- ★ *Twilight* by Stephenie Meyer*

There's No Place Like Home (Sci Fi, Dystopian, Post Apocalyptic)

- ★ *Cinder* by Marissa Meyer*
- ★ *City of Ember* by Jeanne DuPrau*
- ★ *Legend* by Marie Lu*
- ★ *Matched* by Ally Condie*
- ★ *Uglies* by Scott Westerfeld*

That's Sus (Mystery)

- ★ *39 Clues: The Maze of Bones* by Rick Riordan*
- ★ *Echo* by Pam Muñoz Ryan*
- ★ *Holes* by Louis Sachar*
- ★ *Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life* by Wendy Mass*
- ★ *Masterminds* by Gordon Korman*

A Picture in Time (Historical Novels)

- ★ *A Night Divided* by Jennifer Nielsen*
- ★ *The Boys Who Challenged Hitler* by Phillip Hoose*
- ★ *Girl in the Blue Coat* by Monica Hesse*
- ★ *Salt to the Sea* by Ruta Sepetys* (8th Grade)
- ★ *They Called Us Enemy* by George Takei*

Who Runs the World? (Books with Strong Female Protagonists)

- ★ *Gathering Blue* by Lois Lowry*
- ★ *The Girl Who Drank the Moon* by Kelly Barnhill *
- ★ *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins *
- ★ *Maybe a Fox* by Kathi Appelt and Alison McGhee *
- ★ *Sky Jumpers* by Peggy Eddleman*
- ★ *The Thing About Jellyfish* by Ali Benjamin *
- ★ *An Ember in the Ashes* by Sabaa Tahir

Boy Meets World (Books with Strong Male Protagonists)

- ★ *Crash* by Jerry Spinelli*
- ★ *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen*
- ★ *The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan*
- ★ *The Maze Runner* by James Dashner*
- ★ *Ranger's Apprentice: The Ruins of Gorlan* by John Flanagan*

Middle School Mirrors (Relatable Stories of Middle School)

- ★ *New Kid* by Jerry Craft
- ★ *Schooled* by Gordon Korman*
- ★ *The Schwa Was Here* by Neal Shusterman*
- ★ *Stargirl* by Jerry Spinelli*
- ★ *Zack Delacruz: Me and My Big Mouth* by Jeff Anderson *

Leaving Our Mark on the World (Coming of Age)

- ★ *American Born Chinese* by Gene Luen Yang*
- ★ *Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson*
- ★ *The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander*
- ★ *Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie* by Jordan Sonnenblick*
- ★ *Freak the Mighty* by Rodman Philbrick*
- ★ *Ghost* by Jason Reynolds*

So True! (Nonfiction & Memoir)

- ★ *Bee Fearless: Dream Like a Kid* by Mikaila Ulmer
- ★ *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* (young readers edition) by William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer*
- ★ *Guts* by Gary Paulsen*
- ★ *How They Croaked: The Awful Ends of The Awfully Famous* by Georgia Bragg*
- ★ *I am Malala** by Christina Lamb and Malala Yousafazi (Young Reader's Edition Available)
- ★ *They Called Us Enemy* by George Takei*

* Indicates vetted, approved titles from NISD