

# Somerville Public Schools

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**CAROLYN ROSENBERG, Ed.D.**

Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology

June 1, 2009

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Enclosed is your child's summer reading assignment. The goal of the district's Summer Reading Program is to "develop a love of reading by promoting reading as an enjoyable experience." This year, Summer Reading Friday is on September 18, 2009 and celebrates the summer reading assignment in your child's language arts literacy class.

Please encourage reading during the summer. You are invited to share in the joy and pleasure of reading with your child.

This summer and fall, Somerville High School is participating in a *One Book, One Community* program, which occurs every four years. We invite faculty, families, friends, and community members to participate in this shared literacy experience by reading *Rocket Boys* by Homer H. Hickam, Jr. Your child's summer reading assignment and information about *One Book, One Community* activities and events are available on the district website: [www.somervillenk12.org](http://www.somervillenk12.org).

Sincerely,



Carolyn Rosenberg, Ed.D.

**Read, relax, and enjoy your summer!**

Attachments

c: Georgette Boulegeris, Principal of Somerville Middle School



## Somerville Middle School 2009 Summer Reading – Grade 7

The required summer reading for all students entering grade 7 is *Johnny Tremain* by Esther Forbes.

Each seventh grade student must read at least two books: the required reading *Johnny Tremain* by Esther Forbes and a book of his/her choice. Suggestions for the self-selected reading choice are listed below.

### Suggested Additional Readings:

- ✓ *Elijah of Buxton* by Christopher Paul Curtis
- ✓ *Gilda Joyce: Psychic Investigator* by Jennifer Allison
- ✓ *Heat* by Mike Lupica
- ✓ *Schooled* by Gordon Korman
- ✓ *Six Innings* by James Preller
- ✓ *The City of Ember* by Jeanne DuPrau
- ✓ *The Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman
- ✓ *The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan
- ✓ *The London Eye Mystery* by Siobhan Dowd
- ✓ *Wednesday Wars* by Gary Schmidt
- ✓ A book of your choice focused on an area of personal interest (such as sports, careers, hobbies)

### Suggestions for more challenging readings:

- *Cool Salsa: Bilingual Poems on Growing Up Latino in the United States*
- *Ever* by Gail Carson Levine
- *Found* by Margaret Haddix
- *Honeybee: Poems and Short Prose* by Naomi Shihab Nye
- *How Do We Know About Our Changing Climate: Scientists and Kids Explore Global Warming* by Lynne Cherry
- *In Defiance of Hitler: The Secret Mission of Varian Fry* by Carla Killough McClafferty
- *Rocket Boys* by Homer H. Hickam, Jr.
- *The Amulet of Samarkand* by Jonathan Stroud
- *The Boy Who Dared* by Susan Bartoletti



**Complete the attached form and bring it to Language Arts Literacy class on Summer Reading Friday, September 18, 2009.**

Visit the district website to download summer reading activities at: [www.somervillenjk12.org](http://www.somervillenjk12.org)

Read, relax, and enjoy your summer!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Entering: 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

### Summer Reading Summary

Complete the summary below with information about the required reading: *Johnny Tremain*

**Title:** *Johnny Tremain*

**Author:** Esther Forbes

**Setting(s):** Time/Place

**Rate this book on a scale of 1-10 (1 = lowest / 10 = highest). Explain your reasoning.**

**List the main characters and identify their most prominent traits.**

**Johnny's accident changes his life in many ways - physically, practically, and emotionally. As you read Johnny's story, examine what these changes are and how he reacts to them. Write a response comparing and contrasting Johnny's life and personality before and after the accident.**

**The second book I read was:**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you recommend this book to a friend: \_\_\_\_\_ Why or Why Not? \_\_\_\_\_

**Read, relax, and enjoy your summer!**