

**Wolcott High School**



**Summer Reading 2010**

Dear Parents and Students,

Once again, Governor Rell has issued a Summer Reading Challenge to all students and educators in the state of Connecticut. The teachers of the English Department and the Reading Consultant have carefully developed a summer reading program to meet with the Governor's challenge.

Attached is your summer reading suggestion list. We have attached a book list from the *2010 Best Books for Young Adults*. This list is merely a guideline to assist you in choosing your novel. We know that "reading is the foundation of a student's achievement." It is the most important skill! It is through reading that students develop a rich vocabulary and the ability to think critically and creatively. This year we are focusing on the power of self selection of text.

Students are asked to read and respond to the assigned literature using a Reader Response Journal (see attached instructions). When you return to school in the fall, you will be required to hand in your response journal from the book you read.

The teachers and the administrators of Wolcott High School firmly support this Summer Reading Program.

Sincerely,

Evette Zappone, Reading Consultant and  
The teachers of the English Department





## **GUIDELINES FOR SUMMER READING 2010**

1. Students will be given a list of books and they will select **one book** from the list that they choose to read over the summer. The list contains both Fiction and Non-Fiction.
2. Students should keep a **response journal** while they read. **It will be collected when you return the first week of September.**
3. Students will be asked to write down any **questions** they have about the book, and **quotations** of significance and at least **five new words** and their **meanings.**



## **AVAILABILITY OF BOOKS**

1. Copies of the titles may be purchased from Barnes and Noble, Borders, or on-line at [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com) or [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com) . For your convenience we have included the ISBN numbers and the retail price. Several of the titles will also be available in the Wolcott Public Library. Attached please find a list of suggested titles for your use. Please visit the Wolcott High School website and /or the Wolcott Public Library website for a complete listing of all possible titles. If there are other titles that you would prefer your son or daughter to read, please encourage them to do so.

# Response Journal



*How do you normally react after seeing a great movie or hearing an outstanding concert?*

*Do you feel like talking to someone about the experience?*

Like most people, you probably need to share your reactions and feelings. Movies and music have that effect on most people. Are you just as quick to share your thoughts about a good book? Probably not.

For one thing, it may not always be easy to describe in words why you like it. Books can be complex, containing many different levels of meaning. For another thing, the “whys” are often very personal, developing slowly from one chapter to another. Most likely, your reaction is more thoughtful and inward. To help you make sense of what you read, it is a good idea to keep a response journal.



A **response journal** is used to record your thoughts while you are reading. It is used to help the reader make sense of the material being read. These are reading techniques that should be included in your response journal:

1. **Question** – you may have about the book.
2. **Quotes**-any phrases that had meaning or had significance to you.
3. **Vocabulary**- At least five words you didn't know and their meanings.