

## Grade 9

### 2018 Summer Reading Instructions

**Anchor Novel:** *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon  
*Speak* by Laurie Halse Anderson  
*A Christmas Carol –original version* by Charles Dickens  
*Cat's Cradle*—by Kurt Vonnegut  
*A Separate Peace* by John Knowles  
*Eleanor and Park* by Rainbow Rowell  
*The Old Man Who Read Love Stories* by Luis Sepulveda

The aim of summer reading is to provide an enjoyable and varied reading experience and to ensure exposure to writers who may not have been encountered before. Students are free to read as many books as they wish, but every student is required to read the anchor novel *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon **and two additional books of their choosing from the list provided**. No other titles may be substituted.

Students will write a summer reading test during the first week of school and are expected to take notes while reading and researching their books. These notes will be collected on the first day of school. Submitted notes must conform to the following standards or they will have significant marks deducted.

Notes must be hand-written in paragraph form. No cover page and no pictures are to be added.

Please take notes on each of the following and respect the word -length maximum.

**Main character:** describe his or her main characteristics. Explain how she or he is different from others in the book. (75 words)

**Setting:** identify the setting of the work. This includes time, place, duration of events and social conditions of the period. (75 words)

**Conflict:** identify the main conflict of the work. Explain what kind of conflict it is (ie character versus....) and how it is resolved. (100 words)

**Theme:** Identify the theme of the work and show how the author communicates it. Remember that the theme is what the author is trying to tell the reader about life, society or human nature. (100)