

**RCPS Eleventh Grade Summer Reading List
Summer 2020**

TITLE	AUTHOR	SUMMARY	LEXILE	GENRE
<i>Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close</i>	Jonathon Safran Foer	Meet Oskar Schell, an inventor, Francophile, tambourine player, Shakespearean actor, jeweler, pacifist, correspondent with Stephen Hawking and Ringo Starr. He is nine years old. And he is on an urgent, secret search through the five boroughs of New York. His mission is to find the lock that fits a mysterious key belonging to his father, who died in the World Trade Center on 9/11. An inspired innocent, Oskar is alternately endearing, exasperating, and hilarious as he careens from Central Park to Coney Island to Harlem on his search. Along the way he is always dreaming up inventions to keep those he loves safe from harm. What about a birdseed shirt to let you fly away? What if you could actually hear everyone's heartbeat? His goal is hopeful, but the past speaks a loud warning in stories of those who've lost loved ones before. As Oskar roams New York, he encounters a motley assortment of humanity who are all survivors in their own way.	940L	Fiction: Historical/ Disability
<i>Brown Girl Dreaming</i>	Jacqueline Woodson	Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Touching and powerful, each poem is both accessible and emotionally charged, each line a glimpse into a child's soul as she searches for her place in the world. Woodson's eloquent poetry also reflects the joy of finding her voice through writing stories, despite the fact that she struggled with reading as a child. Her love of stories inspired her and stayed with her, creating the first sparks of the gifted writer she was to become	990L	Fiction: Poetic Memoir
<i>I am Malala: Girl Who Stood Up for Education</i>	Malala Yousafzai and Christine Lamp	When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley in Pakistan, one girl spoke out. Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education. On Tuesday, October 9, 2012, when she was fifteen, she almost paid the ultimate price. She was shot in the head at point-blank range while riding the bus home from school, and few expected her to survive. Instead, Malala's miraculous recovery has taken her on an extraordinary journey from a remote valley in northern Pakistan to the halls of the United Nations in New York. At sixteen, she has become a global symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest nominee ever for the Nobel Peace Prize. I AM MALALA is the remarkable tale of a family uprooted by global terrorism, of the fight for girls' education, of a father who, himself a school owner, championed and encouraged his daughter to write and attend school, and of brave parents who have a fierce love for their daughter in a society that prizes sons.	1000L	Non-fiction
<i>A Walk to Remember</i>	Nicholas Sparks	There was a time when the world was sweeter....when the women in Beaufort, North Carolina, wore dresses, and the men donned hats.... Every April, when the wind smells of both the sea and lilacs, Landon Carter remembers 1958, his last year at Beaufort High. Landon had dated a girl or two, and even once sworn that he'd been in love. Certainly the last person he thought he'd fall for was Jamie, the shy, almost ethereal daughter of the town's Baptist minister....Jamie, who was destined to show him the depths of the human heart-and the joy and pain of living. The inspiration for this novel came from Nicholas Sparks' sister: her life and her courage.	1010L	Fiction: Romance
<i>Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance</i>	Robert Pirsig	The extraordinary story of a man's quest for truth. It will change the way you think and feel about your life. "The cycle you're working on is a cycle called 'yourself.'" "The study of the art of motorcycle maintenance is really a study of the art of rationality itself. Working on a motorcycle, working well, caring, is to become part of a process, to achieve an inner peace of mind. The motorcycle is primarily a mental phenomenon." --	1040L	Fiction
<i>Rebound: The Odyssey of Michael Jordan</i>	Bob Greene	Beginning with the day Jordan's father was murdered, and stretching through a two-year odyssey across the American landscape, Rebound is the story of the world's most famous athlete's personal journey in search of himself. Bestselling author Bob Greene was there with Jordan every step along the way. Here is his detailed, intimate chronicle, rich with the sound of Jordan's own voice in long and candid conversations with Greene. In minor-league dugouts and packed NBA arenas, alone with Jordan at home or riding down the highway with him, during the lowest days in the backroads world of small-town baseball and the headiest nights in ornate basketball stadiums where thousands cried his name, Rebound is the story of a man who seemingly had everything the world could offer, and then, in pain, left it behind in an effort to rediscover who he once was, and who he wanted to be.	1050L	Non-Fiction
<i>The Tipping Point</i>	Malcolm Gladwell	How does a style of clothing become trendy? What causes a sudden drop in the crime rate of a major city? Under what circumstances can a political cause explode into a revolutionary mass movement? Why do some advertisements stick in people's minds while others are ignored? How does a book become a best-seller? These are the kind of questions for which Gladwell tries to find a common	1160L	Non-fiction

		denominator. Just as a single match can start a large wildfire under the right conditions, or one sick individual in a crowd can bring about a flu epidemic, Gladwell argues that little things can make a big difference in social dynamics.		
<i>10 Days That Unexpectedly Changed America</i>	Steven M. Gillon	<i>10 Days That Unexpectedly Changed America</i> pinpoints pivotal days that transformed our nation. For the book, The History Channel challenged a panel of leading historians, including author Steven M. Gillon, to come up with some less well-known but historically significant events that triggered change in America. Together, the days they chose tell a story about the great democratic ideals upon which our country was built.	Not Available	Non-fiction
<i>The Newcomers</i>	Helen Thorpe	Enter Mr. Williams's Newcomer classroom at a Denver high school, a place for students new to the US and in stage one of language acquisition. The reader is a fly on the wall, witnessing the amazing process of teens adjusting to a new life, and new language, and a new culture. The teens hail from a variety of backgrounds - immigrants, refugees, witnesses to horrors of today's world - and the adjustment period is not easy for many of them who are likely dealing with PTSD. A little bit more than a year in the life of a high school classroom filled with teens new to the US.	Not Available	Non-Fiction