



***“Until I feared I would lose it, I never loved to read. One does not love breathing.”***

*--Scout in Harper Lee’s To Kill a Mockingbird*

Though we are not requiring summer reading for learners, we want to do all we can to encourage our Bulldogs to become life-long book lovers—and deep, thoughtful “breathers of the world of fiction and non-fiction”! We know well that, the more you read this summer, the stronger your literacy skills will become. We also know, as Scout explains above, that reading is essential to a well-lived, well-loved life.

The second-year Lit & Lang program at PHS will involve a study of the history of American literature through a 21st century lens. We are encouraging all incoming sophomores to select **two works of American literature** to read over the summer, one work of fiction and one work of nonfiction. Please consider what you have learned about yourself and your world through your work on the **Change Portfolio**, and choose your readings in a way that reflects your personal interests and passions.

Below are some staff favorites you may want to consider!

<b>Staff Member</b>	<b>Favorite American Author or Title</b>
<b>John Pehrson</b>	Authors John Grisham and David Baldacci  <i>Mature Content</i>
<b>Lyndsey Hicks</b>	<i>A Walk in the Woods</i> by Bill Bryson *narrative nonfiction
<b>Heidi Martasian</b>	Authors Mark Twain, Jane Langton, and James Fennimore Cooper
<b>Amanda Cramer</b>	Lyricist Ray Charles
<b>Natasha Schottland</b>	Authors Ray Bradbury and Upton Sinclair as well as <i>The Devil in the White City</i> by Erik Larson
<b>Brianna Rapp</b>	<i>Strangers on a Train</i> by Patricia Highsmith
<b>Jeanne Jelnick</b>	<i>The Bean Trees</i> by Barbara Kingsolver
<b>Kris Linville</b>	<i>The Grapes of Wrath</i> by John Steinbeck and any work of literature by Mark Twain (Mr. Linville grew up in the town in Northern California where Twain retired!)
<b>Michael Tang</b>	<i>The Catcher in the Rye</i> by J.D. Salinger
<b>Kari Tubbs</b>	<i>A Tree Grows in Brooklyn</i> by Betty Smith
<b>Jon Resendez</b>	<i>Outliers</i> by Malcolm Gladwell and <i>Cat’s Cradle</i> by Kurt Vonnegut
<b>Brian Smith</b>	<i>At Home in the Phog</i> by Bill Self with John Rohde and <i>They Call Me Coach</i> by John Wooden with Jack Tobin
<b>Desmond Stevens</b>	<i>Travels with Charley</i> by John Steinbeck
<b>Madeline Greenwood</b>	Willa Cather’s <i>Death Comes for the Archbishop</i> or <i>My Antonia</i> ; Edith Wharton’s <i>The House of Mirth</i> ; Louisa May Alcott’s <i>Little Women</i> and anything by Rick Riordan

<b>Emily Sheridan</b>	<i>You Can't be Neutral on a Moving Train</i> by Howard Zinn. the novel explores the fight for social change during the Civil Rights Movement. It is interesting and inspirational!
<b>Wind Ralston</b>	Any work by Kurt Vonnegut or James Ellroy
<b>Kearci Moir</b>	I'm a sucker for Hemingway and I loved F. Scott Fitzgerald's <i>This Side of Paradise</i> .
<b>Kate Avery</b>	<i>City of Thieves</i> by David Benioff (or anything written by David Benioff). <i>City of Thieves</i> tells the coming-of-age story about a man who is arrested for looting in Leningrad during World War II. The novel is funny, enticing, sad, powerful. A quick read for anyone who enjoys history, or just enjoys a really well-written novel.
<b>Doris Schlothman</b>	<i>The Color Purple</i> by Alice Walker <i>When Breath Becomes Air</i> by Paul Kalanithi