

**Tantasqua Regional Junior High School Summer Reading List
2017**

Grade 7

Discussion Title – Becoming Naomi Leon – Pam Munoz Ryan (See description below.) ALL seventh grade students must read this book and select one additional book from the grade 7 list.

+Becoming Naomi Leon – Naomi Soledad Leon Outlaw has had a lot to contend with in her young life, her name for one. Then there are her clothes (sewn in polyester by Gram), her difficulty speaking up, and her status at school as "nobody special."
Pam Munoz Ryan
(Discussion Title)

The Golden Compass- Lyra, age 11, must travel north to fulfill her destiny of saving her people. Fantasy with armored bears, and the value of friendship and love.
Philip Pullman

Harry Potter and The Sorcerer's Stone- Harry Potter has lived a dismal life with his aunt and uncle. Then on Harry's eleventh birthday, things change when a letter arrives, (by owl), inviting him to attend the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry
J. K. Rowling

The Hobbit - The delightful fantasy set in Middle Earth peopled by charming dwarf-like creatures called hobbits.
J.R.R. Tolkien

The Island – 15-year-old Wil discovers himself and the wonders of nature on an island in northern Wisconsin.
Gary Paulsen

The Last Apprentice – Revenge of the Witch – When 12-year-old Thomas, seventh son of a seventh son, is apprenticed to the local Spook, whose job is to fight evil spirits and witches; he expects a life of danger. The pacing and edgy illustrations at the start of each chapter will appeal to readers.
Joseph Delaney

The Lilies of the Field – A group of nuns hold an impossible dream – Homer Smith, a black ex-GI, sets out to make this dream a reality.
W. Barrett

Lily's Crossing- A young girl learns that World War II is bound to change everyone, even the Americans who never leave home.
Patricia Giff

A Long Way From Chicago - A boy recounts his annual summer trips to rural Illinois with his sister during the Great Depression to visit their larger-than-life grandmother
Richard Peck

Peak – This is the emotional, tension-filled story of a fourteen-year-old boy's attempt to be the youngest person to reach the top of Mount Everest.
Roland Smith

Pictures of Hollis Woods-
Patricia Reilly Giff

A troublesome 12-year-old orphan, staying with an elderly artist who needs her, remembers the only other time she was happy in a foster home, with a family that truly seemed to care about her.

Racing in the Rain-
My Life as a Dog -
Garth Stein

Told from the perspective of Enzo, the family dog, this is a moving story about love and loss, family, dreams, and the bond between a dog and its "people."

The Secret Garden –
Frances H. Burnett

Mary befriends the invalid son of the manor and together they investigate the mysteries of the secret garden.

Shadow – Michael
Morpurgo

With the horrors of war bearing down on them, Aman and his mother are barely surviving in an Afghan cave, and staying there any longer will end horribly. However life in England brings new problems.

Shipwreck at the
Bottom of the World -
Jennifer Armstrong

This is the extraordinary and harrowing true story of Shackleton and the crew of the Endurance. This is the story of their attempt to cross the frozen Antarctic continent from one side to the other and all the adventures they encountered.

Small as an Elephant-
Jennifer Jacobson

Jack's mom is gone, leaving him all alone on a campsite in Maine. Can he find his way back to Boston before the authorities realize what happened?

Tangerine –
Edward Bloor

Paul Fisher is an adolescent faced with challenges of adjusting to a new school, making new friends, and confronting the horrible truth about his family.

Threatened -
Eliot Schrefer

Engrossing action and characters will keep readers thinking in this survival story. Schrefer's passion for the material and empathy for the characters shows on every page, and his non-human subjects are every bit as complex and fascinating as narrator Luc.

Travel Team –
Mike Lupica

After he is cut from his travel basketball team--the very same team that his father once led to national prominence--twelve-year-old Danny Walker forms his own team of cast-offs that might have a shot at victory.

+Indicates discussion title.

Note: Abridged versions are not acceptable.

**Tantasqua Regional Junior High School Summer Reading List
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Grade 8

Discussion Title – Life As We Knew It – Susan Beth Pfeffer (See description below.) ALL eighth grade students must read this book and one additional book from the grade 8 list.

Anne Frank: the Diary of a Young Girl –
Anne Frank

Famous diary of a young Jewish girl hiding from the Nazis in Amsterdam during World War II.

The Black Stallion –
Walter Farley

Story of the wildest of all wild creatures – an untamed stallion.

The Contender –
Robert Lipsyte

This novel tells the story of a young man’s struggle to grow up in Harlem and become a fighter.

Death Be Not Proud –
John Gunther

The true story of a teenager’s heroic battle against cancer.

Divergent –
Veronica Roth

In Beatrice Prior’s dystopian world, society is divided into five factions, each dedicated to the cultivation of a particular virtue—Candor, Abnegation, Dauntless, Amity, and Erudite. On an appointed day of every year, all sixteen-year-olds must select the faction to which they will devote the rest of their lives.

Elsewhere -
Gabrielle Zevin

This young adult novel is a tender, funny, and thought-provoking story about first love and seeing death as the other half of life. Liz discovers a place so like Earth, but also completely different.

The Last Apprentice – Curse of the Bane
Joseph Delaney

New challenges await Thomas Ward as the teen confronts the bane of, the title, a creature who can control others' thoughts in book two of the series. The pacing and edgy illustrations at the start of each chapter will appeal to readers.

**+Life As We Knew It –
Susan Beth Pfeffer
(Discussion Title)**

When an asteroid hits the moon, Miranda must learn to survive the unimaginable.

Maximum Ride
The Angel Experiment –
James Patterson

A group of genetically enhanced kids who can fly and have other unique talents are on the run from part-human, part-wolf predators called Erasers in this exciting science fiction thriller.

The Moves Make the Man – Bruce Brooks

A black boy and an emotionally troubled white boy in North Carolina form a precarious friendship. The bond that holds them together? Basketball.

<u>Nothing but the Truth</u> - Avi	In this thought-provoking examination of freedom, patriotism, and respect, ninth-grader, Philip Malloy, is kept from joining the track team by his failing grades in English class.
<u>Ranger's Apprentice</u> <u>The Ruins of Gorlan</u> - John Flanagan	Flanagan spins up a solid fantasy story with plenty of monsters, weapons, a likable pair of teenage heroes, and a growing menace from a rarely-seen villain making a comeback.
<u>The Red Kayak</u> - Priscilla Cummings	Brady loves life on the Chesapeake Bay with his friends J.T. and Digger. Tragedy strikes when the DiAngelos' kayak overturns in the bay, and Brady wonders if it was more than an accident.
<u>Rebecca</u> – Daphne DuMaurier	Story of a young bride haunted by the ghost of her husband's first wife.
<u>Schooled</u> – Gordon Korman	Capricorn Anderson had never watched a television show before. He'd never tasted a pizza. See how his life changes when he leaves the Garland Farm commune.
<u>Shoeless Joe</u> – W.P. Kinsella	The story of Ray, an insurance man turned Iowa farmer – a baseball fanatic who builds his “Field of Dreams.”
<u>The 39 Clues – The Maze of Bones</u> – Rick Riordan	Grace Cahill, matriarch of the world's most powerful family, dies and leaves behind a challenge to her descendants. They can either inherit one million dollars, or forgo the money and receive the first of 39 clues that will lead them on an around-the-world adventure.
<u>White Fang</u> - Jack London	Story of the taming of a wild wolf dog through the patience and devotion of one man.

+Indicates discussion title.

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