

June 2025

Dear Future Sophomores,

Reading is FUNdamental, and part of that means that reading should indeed be fun. From bedtime stories to circle time on the reading carpet, there are structures many of us have participated in that center joy, wonder, and exploration. This is what reading should be about! So, this summer, Ms. Jahawir and Ms. Gochnour are offering the opportunity for you to prioritize your own reading preferences and enjoy reading for the summer.



TASK: Read as many books as you can! And while we've included a list, you can read whatever you want. We just ask that you write a 1 paragraph review and post it on GoodReads or email us the review.

Your review must include the following:

- A brief summary of what the book is about (without spoiling the ending!).
- Your analysis of strengths and weaknesses with specific examples.
- State your opinion of the book and if you would recommend it to others.

If you post your review on Goodreads, email us a screenshot:

- Ms. Jahawir - sjahawir@metropolitanelson.com | sjahawir@schools.nyc.gov

PRIZES: In addition to gaining knowledge from reading a book, you will also earn prizes for the quantity of books that you read! These prizes will be awarded in September, but only if you can prove you read the book by completing one of the two tasks above.

A Positive JumpRope Comment	Back to School Goody Bag	Ice Cream Party	A Gift Card
People who read at least <u>one book</u> and can prove it with a completed review.	People who read at least <u>two books</u> and can prove it with a completed review for <u>each one</u> .	People who read at least <u>three books</u> , <i>one of which is from the list provided</i> , and can prove it with a completed review for <u>each one</u> .	The person who reads <u>the most books</u> in the grade, <i>two of which are from the list provided</i> , and can prove it with a completed review for <u>each one</u> .

BOOK SUGGESTIONS:

FICTION	NONFICTION	POETRY	MEMOIR
<i>They Both Die at the End</i> by Adam Silvera	<i>Better Than We Found It: Conversations to Help Save the World</i> by Frederick & Porsche Joseph	<i>Poet X</i> by Elizabeth Acevedo	<i>In The Country We Love</i> by Diane Guerrero
<i>Moxie</i> by Jennifer Mathieu	<i>[Don't] Call Me Crazy</i> by Kelly Jensen	<i>Call Us What We Carry</i> by Amanda Gorman	<i>Gender Queer</i> by Maia Kobabe
<i>Darius the Great is Not Okay</i> by Adib Korram	<i>Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You</i> by Jason Reynolds	<i>Milk and Honey</i> by Rupi Kaur	<i>Shoe Dog: A Memoir by the Creator of Nike</i> by Phil Knight
<i>Nimona</i> by ND Stevenson	<i>Accountable: The True Story of a Racist Social Media Account and the Teenagers Whose Lives It Changed</i> by Dashka Slater	<i>Don't Call Us Dead</i> by Danez Smith	<i>No One is Too Small to Make a Difference</i> by Greta Thunberg
<i>One of Us is Lying</i> by Karen M. McManus		<i>Ordinary Hazards</i> by Nikki Grimes	<i>Apple: Skin to the Core : A Memoir in Words and Pictures</i> by Eric Gansworth
<i>The Catcher in the Rye</i> by J.D. Salinger		<i>Courage: Daring Poems for Gutsy Girls</i>	<i>Brown Girl Dreaming</i> by Jacqueline Woodson

FAQs:

- **How do I get the books?**
 - If we have a copy of the book at MELS, you may sign out a copy for the summer (limited quantities available).
 - If available, you can borrow the book on [SORA](#) using a computer, tablet, or phone. You may also choose to listen to the book as an audiobook.
 - Sign in to SORA with your DOE email. If you do not know your DOE email, reach out to Ms. Barcia (abarcia@metropolitanel.com).
 - You may also purchase your own copy of the book or borrow it from a library.
- **How do I leave a GoodReads review?**
 - Go to www.goodreads.com
 - Click "Sign up with email" and use your MELS email address to create a GoodReads account if you do not already have one.
 - Set a reading goal for 2025.
 - After you finish each book you read this summer, rate it out of 5 stars, and write a review (*at least 1 paragraph*). You are encouraged to read others' reviews as well.
- **What if I have a question or need help?**
 - Please email Ms. Jahawir @ sjahawir@metropolitanel.com. She will respond to you as quickly as possible.

We hope that you enjoy your summer reading and look forward to hearing your thoughts about your books. Have a safe and happy summer! We can't wait to work with you in September.

Happy reading!

Your MELS 10th Grade English Teachers