



## English Department West Seneca West Senior High School

June 2026

Dear Parents / Guardians of Students Entering English 10:

Reading during the summer develops lifelong reading habits, and it is an important part of West Senior's English curriculum.

The reading choices for students entering English 10 are listed on the attached page and on West Senior's website. Students will complete a written assessment in English class during the first week of school. We recommend students take notes while reading their book and/or bring their book to class the first week. Students will be able to use their handwritten notes and/or the book during the written assessment.

Each grade level has a different list, so students should be sure to choose from the list that corresponds to the grade level they are entering in September. *Students entering Grade 9 Honors, English 10 Honors, English 11 Honors and 12 Honors/AP have a different assignment.* Students who are enrolled in one of those classes in the fall but did not receive the assignment specific to that class can access the correct assignment on West Senior's website under *School Resources* and then under *2026 Summer Reading List*.

The books on the list cover a wide range of reading levels and genres. If needed, students can receive help selecting a book from the list by speaking to their English teacher or Ms. Knaze, West Senior's school librarian, before the end of school in June. While students may want to purchase a copy of the book to bring it to school in September, it is also possible to borrow the book from the library or an English teacher. Depending on availability, students can check out their selected book from West Senior's library before school ends in June or borrow it from the public library. An electronic copy of the book may be obtained using SORA, accessible through the West Senior library's web site at <http://wswshs.wscschools.libguides.com/home>, or through the West Seneca Public Library's catalog of ebooks and via Overdrive at [https://bepl.ent.sirsi.net/client/en\\_US/default](https://bepl.ent.sirsi.net/client/en_US/default). If students are borrowing a book/e-book from the library, they should take notes as they read to review before the in-class written assessment. *Students will not be permitted to use their phones to access ebooks or notes.*

We believe this program will enhance our students' reading skills. If students have any questions during the summer, they can email their previous English teacher or [pcarlone@wscschools.org](mailto:pcarlone@wscschools.org). We appreciate your cooperation and look forward to an exciting and successful school year!

Sincerely,

The Faculty of the West Seneca West English Department

## Summer Reading List for Students Entering English 10, 2026

- *Long Way Down* by Jason Reynolds
- *Far From the Tree* by Robin Benway
- *Hockey Strong* by Todd Smith
- *Outcasts United* by Warren St. John
- *7 Days at the Hot Corner* by Terry Trueman
- *Training Camp: What the Best Do Better than Everyone Else* by Jon Gordon
- *Between a Rock and a Hard Place* by Aron Ralston
- *Adrenaline Ride* by Pam Withers
- *The Cruel Prince* by Holly Black
- *The House of the Spirits* by Isabel Allende and Magda Bogin
- *The Final Six* by Alexandra Monir
- *A Short History of Nearly Everything* by Bill Bryson
- *Just Listen* by Sarah Dessen
- *City of Thieves* by David Benioff
- *Salt to the Sea* Ruth Septys
- *Truly Devious* by Maureen Johnson
- *People Like Us* by Dana Mele
- *They Both Die at the End* by Adam Silvera
- *We've Got a Job: The 1963 Birmingham Children's March* by Cynthia Levinson
- *The Skin I'm In* by Sharon Flake
- *The Fever Code* by James Dashner
- *12 Things to do Before You Crash and Burn* by James Proimos
- *Hit Count* by Chris Lynch
- *The 57 Bus* by Dashka Slater
- *The Short and Tragic Life of Robert Peace* by Jeff Hobbs
- *The Bell Jar* by Sylvia Plath

### Titles available from English teachers

- *The Life I'm In* by Sharon Flake
- *The Boys of Winter* by Wayne Coffey
- *Something Like Hope* by Shawn Goodman
- *Angry Management* by Chris Crutcher
- *The Earth, My Butt, and Other Big Round Things* by Carolyn Mackler
- *Glass* by Ellen Hopkins
- *Fallout* by Ellen Hopkins