

Welcome to the CCHS Step-Up Reading Incentive Program!  
CCHS welcomes you to our shared reading culture

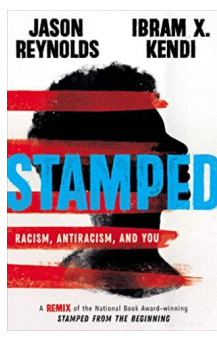
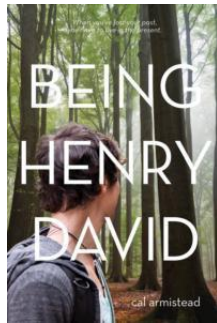
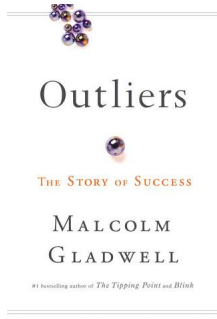
As part of our ongoing goal of nurturing a reading culture at CCHS, we are inviting all rising 9th-graders to participate in an optional reading/viewing activity. You may choose a book from the list below and we will buy a copy for you to read over the summer. You may also choose from one of the documentary films which are available via streaming video.

In the fall we will be scheduling lunchtime discussion groups where students from the various 9th cohorts can gather together to discuss the book they read, or the documentary they viewed. Students are welcome to join other groups as well if they want to hear about those books, and meet more students from other cohorts.

Students will be expected to return their summer reading books so we can do it again next year! *You will be charged for lost books.*

Choose your summer reading book here: [Welcome to CCHS Summer Reading!](#)

Titles to choose from:

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|   | <p><a href="#">Stamped (Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi)</a> Stamped traces the history of racism and the many political, literary, and philosophical narratives that have been used to justify slavery, oppression, and genocide. Framed through the ideologies and thoughts of segregationists, assimilationists, and antiracists throughout history, the book demonstrates that the “construct of race has always been used to gain and keep power, whether financially or politically,” and that this power has been used to systemically and systematically oppress Black people in the United States for more than four hundred years.</p>  |
|  | <p><a href="#">Being Henry David. (Cal Armistead)</a>. Seventeen-year-old "Hank" has found himself at Penn Station in New York City with no memory of anything --who he is, where he came from, why he's running away. His only possession is a worn copy of Walden, by Henry David Thoreau. And so he becomes Henry David-or "Hank" and takes first to the streets, and then to the only destination he can think of--Walden Pond in Concord, Massachusetts. Hank begins to piece together recollections from his past. The only way Hank can discover his present is to face up to the realities of his grievous memories. He must come to terms with the tragedy of his past, to stop running, and to find his way home.</p>                                       |
|  | <p><a href="#">Outliers (Gladwell)</a> Malcolm Gladwell takes us on an intellectual journey through the world of "outliers"--the best and the brightest, the most famous and the most successful. He asks the question: what makes high-achievers different? His answer is that we pay too much attention to what successful people are like, and too little attention to where they are from: that is, their culture, their family, their generation, and the idiosyncratic experiences of their upbringing. Along the way he explains the secrets of software billionaires, what it takes to be a great soccer player, and what made the Beatles the greatest rock band. <i>This book is very readable and has proved to be popular with reluctant readers.</i></p> |

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|  | <p><u><a href="#">Dry (Neal and Jarrod Shusterman)</a></u> When the California drought escalates to catastrophic proportions, one teen is forced to make life and death decisions for her family in this harrowing story of survival. The drought—or the Tap-Out, as everyone calls it—has been going on for a while now. Everyone’s lives have become an endless list of don’ts: don’t water the lawn, don’t fill up your pool, don’t take long showers. Until the taps run dry. Suddenly, Alyssa’s quiet suburban street spirals into a warzone of desperation; neighbors and families turn against each other on the hunt for water.</p>  |
|  | <p><u><a href="#">Dear Martin (Nic Stone)</a></u>: Justyce McAllister is top of his class and set for the Ivy League—but none of that matters to the police officer who just put him in handcuffs. And despite leaving his rough neighborhood behind, he can't escape the scorn of his former peers or the ridicule of his new classmates. Justyce looks to the teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. for answers. But do they hold up anymore? He starts a journal to Dr. King to find out.</p>   |
|  | <p><u><a href="#">Hey, Kiddo: A graphic novel (Jarret J. Krosoczka)</a></u> In kindergarten, Jarrett Krosoczka's teacher asks him to draw his family, with a mommy and a daddy. But Jarrett's family is much more complicated than that. His mom is an addict, in and out of rehab, and in and out of Jarrett's life. Jarrett lives with his grandparents -- two very loud, very loving, very opinionated people who had thought they were through with raising children until Jarrett came along. Only as a teenager can Jarrett begin to piece together the truth of his family, reckoning with his mother and tracking down his father. <i>Hey, Kiddo</i> is a profoundly important memoir about growing up in a family grappling with addiction, and finding the art that helps you survive.</p> |
|  | <p>My Octopus Teacher (Netflix)<br/>A filmmaker forges an unusual friendship with an octopus living in a South African kelp forest, learning as the animal shares the mysteries of her world.<br/>Trailer: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3s0LTDhqe5A&amp;ab_channel=Netflix">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3s0LTDhqe5A&amp;ab_channel=Netflix</a></p>   |
|  | <p>Meru (Amazon Prime, CFPL Hoopla, CFPL DVD &amp; Blu Ray)<br/>Three elite climbers struggle to find their way through obsession and loss as they attempt to climb Mount Meru, one of the most coveted prizes in the high stakes game of Himalayan big wall climbing.<br/>Trailer: <a href="http://www.merufilm.com/">http://www.merufilm.com/</a></p>  |