

June 2008

Dear Students and Parents,

Independent reading is an important part of the Language Arts curriculum. One of our goals this year in English/Language Arts is for you to feel a greater appreciation and love for reading. We also wish to see you continue to grow and mature as readers.

The following books are all approved, grade appropriate novels that you will be reading during this summer **before** entering Weber Middle School. You are **required** to read any **one** (1) novel of your choice from the list.

The approved books are:

- 1) Bridge to Terabithia by Paterson
- 2) From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler by Konigsburg
- 3) Hatchet by Paulsen
- 4) Maniac Magee by Spinelli

In each of these novels you will find common themes. The protagonists, or main characters, are young people who are facing real-life challenges. These challenges involve issues such as friendships, peer pressure, and family dynamics. Similarly, as you enter middle school, you will learn to adapt to the challenges presented in a new, exciting school environment.

When you start Weber on September 6, 2006, you will be required to participate in class discussions directly related to your novel. Since all families will be mailed this letter at home, it is expected that all students will have this first school assignment completed for the first day of school.

All the above books are available at the Port Washington Public Library, neighboring library systems, as well as all bookstores in the area.

We hope you enjoy the novels chosen, and we look forward to our first day of school together.

Very truly yours,

Weber 6th Grade Language Arts Teachers

Ms. Angel
Ms. Lax
Ms. Frank
Mr. Grande
Mr. Martin
Ms. McCarthy
Mr. Smith
Ms. Silvestri