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# **BLIND BROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL**

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## **SUMMER READING 2019**



June 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians of Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> Graders:

Reading for understanding AND enjoyment is a major factor in your child(ren)'s success as a student. Good readers read often, and reading in a consistent manner over the summer months, let's say fifteen to twenty minutes each day rather than a lot all at once, will keep their reading in great shape!

The adoption of the Common Core State Standards has reinforced the expectation that every child read twenty-five "just right" books, independently, each and every year. **This summer we are assigning, *Out of My Mind* by Sharon Draper, to all incoming sixth graders for summer reading** (we will supply copies of the book). This novel will count as two books towards their independent reading lists in September, and ensure that each of our students is well on their way to reaching State expectations by the time school even begins!

Due to the length of *Out of My Mind*, no other books will be 'required' reading this summer. However, we encourage all of our students to read, read, read ☺. If your child(ren) has already read *Out of My Mind*, he/she should reread the novel. Reading a book for school is much different than reading a book solely for pleasure.

Our goal is to promote active reading and help students engage with texts. Although notes will not be a part of any grade, it is still **HIGHLY SUGGESTED** that students keep a visual record of their reading. This can be done in any number of ways:

- Use "stickies," or post-its to track thoughts across a book,
- Create charts or diagrams to monitor understanding,
- Keep a notebook or journal to elaborate on his/her thinking, and/or

- Use any additional note styles...note (index) cards, etc., that have worked for your son/daughter in the past.

***Students must bring their copies of Out of My Mind to the first day of school, Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup>.***

We are looking forward to a terrific new school year...have a great summer!!!

The 6<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA Team