

Middle School English Literature Selection Advisory Committee: 8th-Grade Reading Group

5/19/21

Welcome!

Thanks for being here.



Agenda

A copy of the agenda was emailed to you & is in our shared folder.

Goals:

- ❑ Understand tonight's task
- ❑ Discuss core lit candidates: *The Hate U Give*, *They Called Us Enemy*, *Pet*, *Poet X*
- ❑ Vote on whether to keep candidates in the running
- ❑ Discuss fall timeline and identify titles to read for September
- ❑ If time: Tidy up the supplemental menu

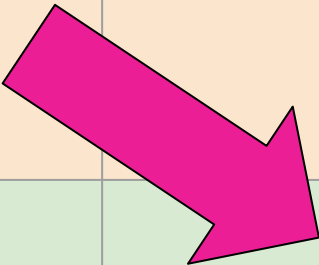
Understand Tonight's Task

From Our Charge Statement:

Select 2 pieces of core literature to be recommended for use in grades 6, 7 and 8 beginning in August 2021.

Create a list of supplemental literature to be recommended for use in grades 6, 7 and 8 beginning in August 2021.

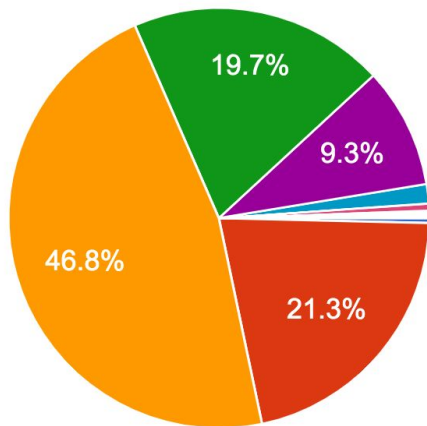
	Core Title #1	Core Title #2	Supplemental Lists
6th Grade	D'Aulaires' <i>Book of Greek Myths</i> (1962)	<i>The Hero Next Door</i> (2019)	PAUSD 6th-Grade Supplemental Literature List, 2021
7th Grade	<i>The Outsiders</i> (1967)	<i>Flying Lessons & Other Stories</i> (2017)	PAUSD 7th-Grade Supplemental Literature List, 2021
8th Grade	<i>Twelve Angry Men</i> (1955)		<i>Draft in process!</i>



Twelve Angry Men - Student Survey

What did you think of Reginald Rose's *Twelve Angry Men*?

539 responses



- Never read it or teacher did not get to it.
- I loved reading *Twelve Angry Men*!
- I liked reading *Twelve Angry Men*.
- I was neutral about reading *Twelve Angry Men*.
- I didn't really care for *Twelve Angry Men*
- I hated reading *Twelve Angry Men*
- I am new to PAUSD and did not read...
- I'm what you could say "neutral" about...

Sample Ballot

4. Should Poet X stay in the running as a core lit contender?

- ☐ Yes, Poet X should stay in the running as a core lit contender for now.
- ☐ No, Poet X belongs on the supplemental menu.
- ☐ No, Poet X should not stay in the running as a core lit contender nor should it be on the supplemental menu.

One vote/committee member

Majority rules

Discuss Core Lit Candidates

What Constitutes a Good Core Candidate?

8th-Grade Curriculum:

Themes

Topics

Units

Norms

- Be transparent: Speak publicly.
- Have the courage to speak your truth.
- Assume positive intent. Be aware of your impact.
- Keep the student experience front and center.
- Examine what we say, so it doesn't lead to bias.
- Call people in with respect and kindness. Receive "being called in" in the same spirit.

The Hate U Give: Dyads & Conversation

Listening Dyads:

Give your partner the gift of
really listening

Group Conversation:

Com – together

Versare – to turn

Is The Hate U Give a good core lit candidate?

The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas

Reviews & Awards

Booklist starred, 12/15/16

Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books starred,
03/01/17

Coretta Scott King Author Honor, 2018

Horn Book Guide starred, 10/01/17

Horn Book Magazine starred, 03/01/17

Kirkus Reviews starred, 12/15/16

Michael L. Printz Honor, 2018

New York Times, 02/26/17

Publishers Weekly starred, 11/28/16

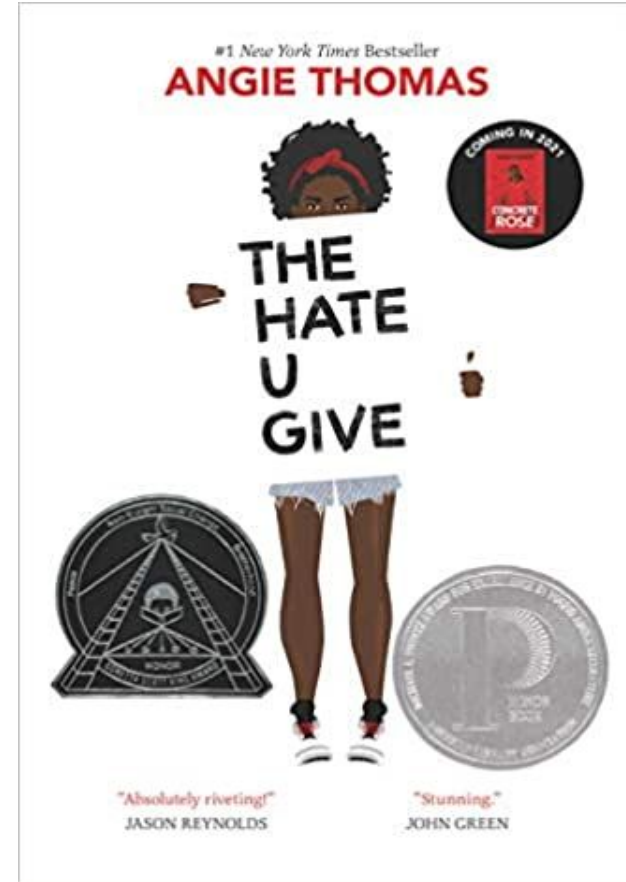
School Library Journal starred, 01/01/17

Teacher Librarian, 12/01/17

Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA) starred, 02/01/17

William C. Morris YA Debut Award, 2018

SLJ: Gr 8 Up—After Starr and her childhood friend Khalil, both black, leave a party together, they are pulled over by a white police officer, who kills Khalil. The sole witness to the homicide, Starr must testify before a grand jury that will decide whether to indict the cop, and she's terrified, especially as emotions run high.



The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas

Listening Dyads:

Two minutes each

Choose who will speak first

Reflect on: *Is **The Hate U Give** a good core lit candidate?*

Switch after two minutes



***The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas**

Group Conversation:

10 minutes total

Raise hand to speak

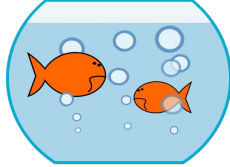
Reflect on: ***Is *The Hate U Give* a good core lit candidate?***

Monitor speaking time



***They Called Us Enemy:* Fishbowl and Q & A**

Fishbowl participants:



Discuss: Is this text a good core lit candidate?

Please monitor your speaking time, so everyone has a chance to be heard.

Fishbowl observers:



Consider: Does this text sound like a good core lit candidate?

Save your questions/comments for brief Q and A after each discussion

They Called Us Enemy by George Takei

Reviews & Awards

Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature Award, 2020

Booklist starred, 07/01/19

Horn Book Magazine, 09/01/19

Kirkus Reviews starred, 12/01/19

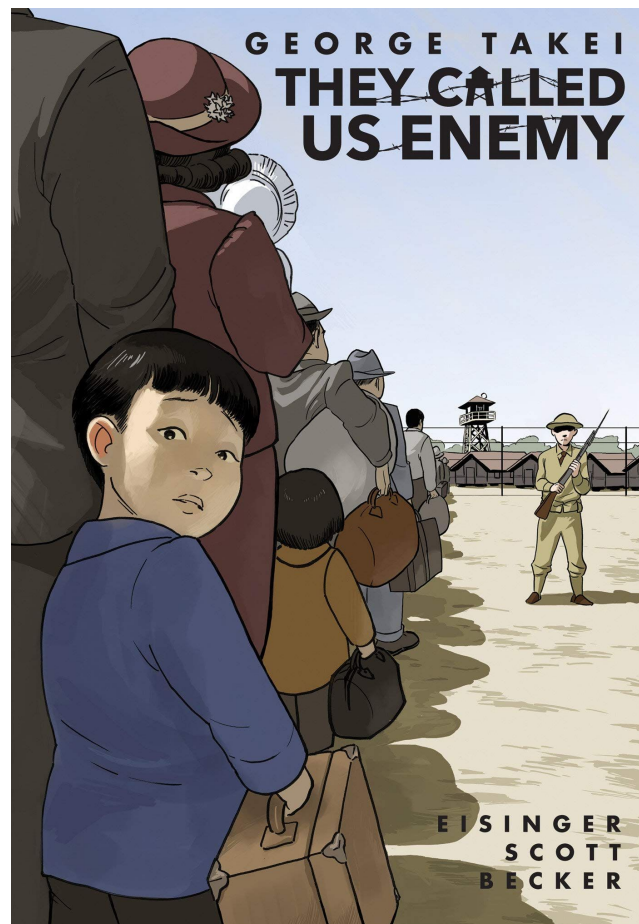
Library Journal - web only, 07/26/19

Publishers Weekly starred, 07/08/19

School Library Journal Xpress, 06/28/19

Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA) starred, 10/01/19

SLJ: Gr 7 Up—In the wake of the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, 120,000 Japanese Americans were rounded up, incarcerated in camps, and stripped of freedoms... Among them was future television star and political activist Takei, who as a child was imprisoned along with his family by the U.S. government. Takei, joined by writers Eisinger and Scott, tells a powerful, somewhat nonlinear story spanning 80 years of U.S. history, starting right after Executive Order 9066 was enacted in 1942.



From Iva:



<https://www.cartoonart.org/they-called-us-enemy-a-graphic-memoir>

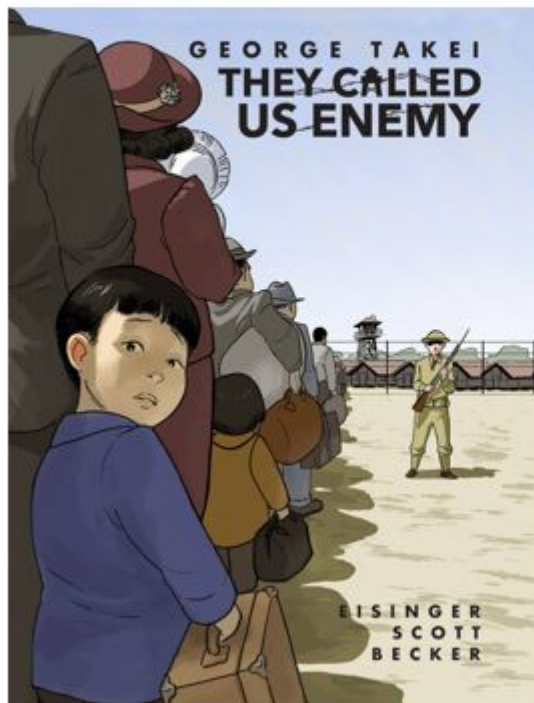
EXHIBITIONS

They Called Us Enemy: A Graphic Memoir

March 6 - June 20, 2021

The Cartoon Art Museum, Top Shelf Productions and IDW Publishing proudly present *They Called Us Enemy* featuring artist **Harmony Becker**'s artwork from the acclaimed graphic memoir written by actor, author, and activist **George Takei** in which Takei revisits his haunting childhood in American concentration camps, as one of 120,000 Americans imprisoned by the U.S. government during World War II.

This exhibition also features a selection of original artwork from the Cartoon Art Museum's permanent collection, including comic strips and animation from the 1940s, providing patrons with a snapshot of popular entertainment on the home front during the second World War.



Art by Harmony Becker © 2019 George Takei

They Called Us Enemy by George Takei

Fishbowl Participants:

Deanna

Iva

Kristen

Olivia

Kelly

Kathie

Would anyone else like to join?



Is this text a good
core lit candidate?

***They Called Us Enemy* by George Takei**

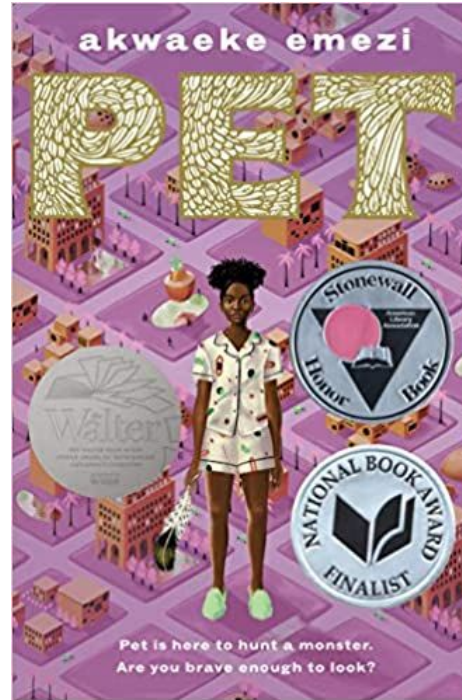
Fishbowl Observers:

Any questions/comments?



Pet by Akwaeke Emezi

Any new
thoughts or
questions?



Read by:

Kristen

Kelly

Ander

Olivia

Kari

Shaina

Jen

Deanna

Iva

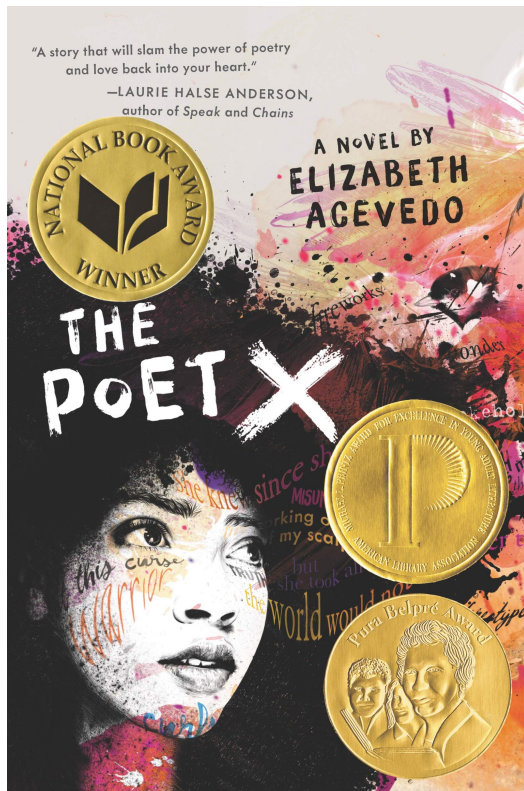
Brooke

Kim

Jedd

Poet X by Elizabeth Acevedo

Any new
thoughts or
questions?



Read by:

Jen
Jedd
Brooke
Kim
Deanna
Kari

Ander
Kelly
Olivia
Shaina

Summary Chart

8th Grade Possible Core Candidates Starred Reviews/Other Considerations

Booklist ★	Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books★	Horn Book ★	Kirkus ★	Publisher's Weekly ★	Library Journal/ SLJ★	VOYA/ YALSA ★	Coretta Scott King/ Newbery/ Printz/ Pura Belpre/ Stonewall	Other Awards
✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		Printz Award	
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		William Morris Award
✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Printz Award Coretta Scott King Award	
			✓	✓	✓		Stonewall Honor	
		✓	✓	✓	✓		Printz Award/ Pura Belpre	

Side-by-side comparison of core lit contenders' starred reviews/awards

Link in chat:

Closing Comments:

Further considerations before voting?

Vote on Core Lit Candidates

Decision Time: Which Candidates Should Stay in the Running?

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Voting Results + Next Steps

Title	Still in the Running for Core?	Who Else Will Read by September?
<i>The Hate U Give</i>		
<i>They Called Us Enemy</i>		
<i>Pet</i>		
<i>Poet X</i>		

Identify Titles to Read for September

Tentative Timeline

Summer: *Continue to read and vet new books.*

Early September: Read, vet, and discuss new core lit candidates

Late September: Read, vet, and discuss new core lit candidates.

Early October: Decide on finalist(s). Is a pilot advisable?

October – February: Potential pilot takes place. Supplemental list is finalized.

March: Pilot input is collected. Committee reviews pilot data & makes recommendations.

April: Board presentation

Helpful Resources

Find and open the Resource Repository:

- New Resource from last time » MS Anthologies Starred Reviews list
- 8th Grade Core & Supplemental Lists Organizer

New Readings

Main Room – Anthologies

Thousand Beginnings and Endings:

Ander, Kari

*Foreshadow: Stories to Celebrate the
Magic of Reading and Writing:*

Kristen

Universe of Wishes: Brooke

Breakout Room – *We Are Not Free*

Deanna, Iva, Kathie

**If your name is not on this slide,
select the topic you are most
interested in.**

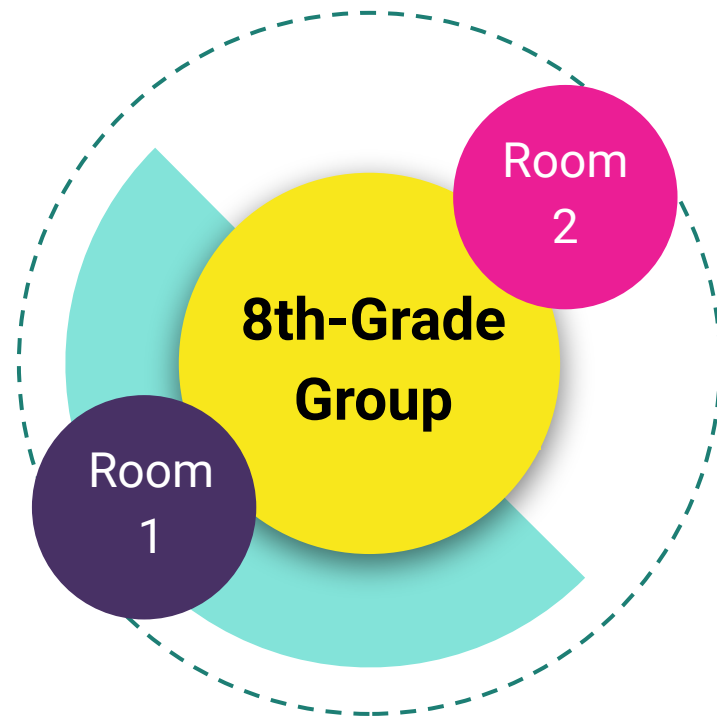
**Readers: Do any of these titles
rise to the level of possible core
lit? Please update our organizer.**

Share Discussion with the Whole Group

If you read something new for tonight, please report on it.

Does your title/s rise to the level of possible core?

Are other readers needed for your title/s?



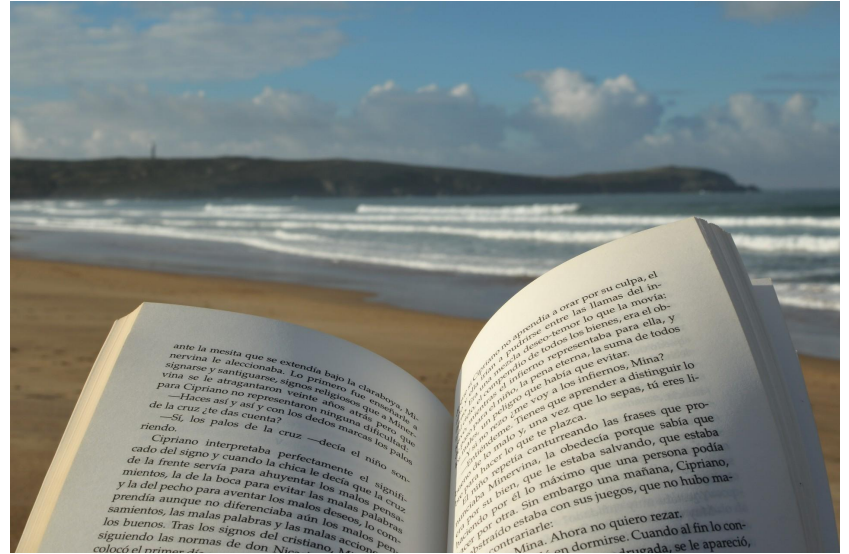
Identify Titles to Read for September

Record your decisions in the 8th Grade: Core & Supplemental Lists:

1. Are there any Core Lit Candidates that you still need to read?
2. Consider reading one of the new titles we discussed today (if any rose to the level of core): *Thousand Beginnings*, *Foreshadow*, *Universe of Wishes*, *We Are Not Free*
3. Look at our book lists & Anthologies list and pick a new book(s) to read and vet.

Share Your Plan with the Whole Group

What are you reading for September?



Supplemental Menu

Tidy Up the Supplemental Menu

With the time remaining:

- Starred titles: *Long Walk to Water**
- Pink titles: *Hey, Kiddo*
- Titles marked in **orange**: Decide whether we are keeping these or not

To Do's

For September, please:

- Read any Core Candidates that you signed up for
- Read & vet any new book/anthology that you selected
- Keep talking to people! Tell your department and/or course-alike team about the books you are reading. Solicit their thoughts and tell them yours.

Thank You and Au Revoir!

Thank you so much for your
hard work this year. Until
we meet again!

