



# DELSEA REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dr. Piera Gravenor, Superintendent • Dr. Melissa Williams, Assistant Superintendent • Joseph Collins, Business Administrator  
Jackie Scerbo, Director of Special Services/CST • Fran Ciociola, HS Principal • Jill Bryfogle, MS Principal

May, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to Delsea Regional Middle School! We look forward to your student joining our community of learners. Our district believes literacy to be the backbone of learning and our Summer Reading program at Delsea Middle School reflects this philosophy. As such, your seventh grade student will become part of a “culture of literacy” which promotes and reinforces our love of reading.

The purpose of this letter is to provide clarity to the English Summer Reading program for the 6<sup>th</sup> into 7<sup>th</sup> grade students. All incoming seventh grade students who are **not taking Honors English Language Arts** will be able to choose a fiction or nonfiction book they would like to read as their **summer reading book based upon their individual reading profile**. Upon their return in September, they will be taking an Accelerated Reader (AR) quiz which will reflect their comprehension and understanding of their chosen book. **NOTE: Students are not permitted to choose a summer reading book on which they have previously taken an AR quiz!**

Delsea Middle School uses Accelerated Reader as a supplement to our school-wide reading initiative allowing our teachers to monitor students’ independent reading practice. Each student’s individual reading range has been determined by either the Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) or the Accelerated Reading STAR Assessment Tool recently administered at their elementary school. This range will enable your student to select a book within their reading level. All of the books which have a determined book level (BL) and correlating AR quiz are in the Accelerated Reader database called the AR Bookfinder. Your student’s reading range, as determined by either the DIBELS or the STAR Assessment, will be sent home with your son or daughter on a form titled the yellow “AR Info Slip” after their school visit to Delsea Middle School.

Students may select a fiction or nonfiction book to read for the summer in a number of ways:

- 1). **From the DMS Media Center:** *The agreements slip, which is enclosed in this letter, is required to check out a book from the DMS Media Center.* There is a \$10 replacement fee if books are damaged or lost. All books in our Media Center that have a correlating Accelerated Reader quiz are color-coded for easy visibility. There are a number of ways students can check out a library book from DMS:
  - a) Your student should check out their AR book when he/she visits the DMS Media Center in June with his/her class. Remote students will be advised by their English teachers about attending.
  - b) Students who were not present for book selection with their class may also remotely use the DMS summer reading book request form posted on the DMS Summer Reading Google Classroom. After searching for a book that has a corresponding AR quiz on the DMS Destiny library catalog, which is also used in the elementary schools, your student may fill out the request form. The physical book will be placed at the **DMS Security Office. These requests need to be made by June 16<sup>th</sup> in order to be ready for summer pick up beginning June 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

- c) Two summer evening dates will be held on Monday, July 12<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, August 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm in the **Delsea Middle School Media Center** where students can receive assistance from the Media Specialist when accompanied by a parent. A signed agreement slip is required for students who visit in June and will also be available for parents to sign during the summer evening hours.
- d) Beginning July 6th, a digital AR book may be checked out from the DMS Media Center’s MackinVIA platform. This program may be accessed from the DMS Summer Reading Google Classroom where a tutorial will be posted showing students how to login using their school email addresses and how to find an audiobook or eBook with a corresponding AR quiz. If questions arise, please contact Mr. Nicholson: [mnicholson@delsearegional.us](mailto:mnicholson@delsearegional.us) or (856) 694-0100 ext. 276.

2). **From the public libraries:** Books may be checked out from any public library in Gloucester County’s LOGIN System, including the Gloucester County, Franklin Township, Newfield, and Glassboro Public Libraries, once a library card is obtained (for free) from your household’s “hometown” library. A parent must be present to acquire a LOGIN card. Securing a public library card is encouraged for students entering Delsea as they will find the library useful for research and reading assignments throughout their academic career.

3). **By purchase (Print or Digital):** Summer reading books may also be purchased at any major bookseller. Students who choose to buy their own reading material **have the added benefit of being able to notate within the story.** This is a skill taught in seventh grade and used throughout their student’s tenure at DRHS District.

**Please note:** Before books are purchased or checked out of the Delsea Media Center or public library, students must first ensure that the book level (BL) of the chosen book is within their reading range by checking the book’s level on the free Accelerated Reader database of books called AR Bookfinder: [www.ARbookfind.com](http://www.ARbookfind.com). Checking the title on the AR Bookfinder site also ensures there is a correlating Accelerated Reading quiz to take in school upon their return in September. Your student can conduct simple and advanced searches on the AR Bookfinder and also print out a list of titles which have book levels (BL) within their reading range with correlating AR quizzes.

Students have been advised to read/re-read their book in August so that the storyline and details are fresh in their mind. No matter when they read the book (June, July or August), speak with your child and encourage them to keep a log of characters and events for each of the chapters. Using sticky notes while reading will keep students actively engaged in their reading, aid with recalling major events, and help them with organizing their thoughts as they read. This will enable them to review their notes in preparation for the AR comprehension quiz administered in September.

If books are borrowed from the DMS Media Center in June or during the summer evening hours, they **must be returned no later than October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 in the same condition in which they were checked out.** Parents/Guardians are asked to read the enclosed agreement slip and return the form to your student’s elementary school teacher prior to their child’s visit to DMS.

Sincerely,

Anne Papiano,  
Library Media Specialist

Mike Nicholson,  
District Supervisor of Instruction

## **AGREEMENT SLIP**

**PLEASE CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOXES AND RETURN THIS SLIP TO YOUR STUDENT'S  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER PRIOR TO DMS VISIT.**

\_\_\_\_\_ I have read the information above and will review my student's **AR book selection** from the DMS Media Center (physical book), DMS's MackinVIA (digital), the public library, or personal purchase.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am aware that the summer evening hours will be held in the Delsea Middle School Media Center from 6:30 pm-8:30 pm on Monday, July 12<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree to return books that are checked out of the DMS Media Center in the same condition no later than October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. I understand that charges for lost or damaged books will apply.

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
STUDENT NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
STUDENT'S 6th GR. HOMEROOM TEACHER

\_\_\_\_\_  
PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE NUMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
PARENT EMAIL