8TH GRADE
BOOKLIST

Rules of the Road
Bauer - REALISTIC
Jenna drives an elderly businesswoman from Chicago to Texas to confront the son trying to force her to retire, and on the way she hones her talents as a saleswoman and finds the strength to face her alcoholic father.

MID F BAUER

Shark Girl
Bingham - VERSE, REALISTIC
After losing her arm in a shark attack, Jane prepares to return to school full of questions: Why did this happen? What about her arm? What about her life?

MID F BINGHAM

Steve Jobs: The Man Who Thought Different
Blumenthal - NONFICTION, BIOGRAPHY, TECHNOLOGY
Traces the inspiring life of the late founder of Apple, covering topics ranging from his struggles as an adopted child and a college dropout to his Buddhist faith and friendship with Steve Wozniak.

MID 621.39 BLU

The Compound
Bodeen - SCIENCE FICTION, DYSTOPIAN
After Eli and his family have spent six years in a bunker to protect them from a nuclear holocaust, he discovers that the Compound is not the safe haven it seems.

YA BODEEN

The Eye of Minds
Dasher - SCIENCE FICTION
When a cyber-terrorist begins to threaten gamers in a world of advanced technology, Michael is called upon to seek him and his secrets out.

YA DASHER

The Rig
Ducie - ACTION, SCIENCE FICTION
Will Drake, a criminal and escape artist, is determined to be the first person to break out of the high-security prison in the Arctic Ocean known as the Rig.

MID F DUCIE AND YA DUCIE

If I Stay
Forman - REALISTIC, ROMANCE
While in a coma after a car accident that killed her parents, Mia weighs whether to live with her grief or join her family in death.

YA FORMAN

The Paladin Prophecy
Frost - FANTASY
Will finds himself in the middle of a millennia-old struggle between titanic forces when he is simultaneously recruited by an exclusive prep school and followed by sinister agents.

YA FROST

Debunk It
Grant - NONFICTION
Provides readers with the tools to identify misinformation by explaining how to spot bad evidence and poor arguments, and identifying rhetorical tricks used to fool others.

MID 011.9 GRA

Code of Honor
Gratz - REALISTIC
When Iranian-American Kamran learns that his brother has been labeled a terrorist, he sets out to piece together the clues that will save his brother’s life and his country from a deadly threat.

MID F GRATZ AND YA GRATZ

Soul Surfer
Hamilton - NONFICTION, BIOGRAPHY, MEMOIR
Bethany Hamilton lost her arm in a shark attack and nearly died, but she never lost her faith. She tells the story of her triumphant return to competitive surfing, which continues to inspire all who hear it.

MID 797.32 HAM AND 797.32 HAM

The Forbidden Wish
Khoury - FANTASY, ROMANCE
Zahra, a genie, finds her chance for freedom challenged by her love for her master.

YA KHOURY

Ocean Known as the Rig
Ducie - ACTION, SCIENCE FICTION
Determined to be the first person to break into the Congo, from where she and her parents, Mia weighs whether to live with her grief or join her family in death.

MID F DUCIE AND YA DUCIE

The Boys Who Challenged Hitler: Knud Pedersen and the Churchill Club
Higson - NONFICTION, HISTORY
The true story of a group of boy resistance fighters in Denmark after the Nazi invasion.

940.53 HOO

Illuminae
Kaufman - SCIENCE FICTION
When their planet is attacked, Kady and Ezra board a space fleet fleeing the enemy, but their ship’s sinister artificial intelligence and a deadly plague may be the end of them.

YA KAUFMAN

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Losers Take All
Klass - HUMOR, SPORTS
At a sports-crazy NJ high school where all kids must play on a team, a group of rebels start a soccer team determined to lose games as spectacularly and hilariously as they can.
MID F Klass and YA Klass

The Art of Secrets
Klise - MYSTERY
When some priceless art turns up at a fundraiser for a Pakistani-American family, victims of a possible hate crime, people begin to debate who should get the money and question each other’s innocence.
MID F Klise

Boy Meets Boy
Leviathan - ROMANCE
Paul tries to win the heart of a boy named Noah while his best friend Joni is drifting, his other best friend Tony deals with ultra-religious parents, and his ex-boyfriend Kyle refuses to go away.
YA LEVIATHAN

I am a Genius of Unspeakable Evil and I Want to Be Your Class President
Lockhart - HUMOR
Oliver has everyone convinced that he is stupid and lazy, but he is actually a very wealthy evil genius, and when he decides to run for class president, nothing will stop him in his way.
MID F Lockhart and YA Lockhart

We Were Liars
Lockhart - THRILLER, MYSTERY
Cadence struggles to remember a mysterious accident she had while staying with her cousins and boyfriend on her grandfather’s private island.
YA Lockhart

Heaven Looks a Lot Like the Mall
Mass - VERSE, REALISTIC
When Tessa falls into a coma, she experiences heaven as the mall where her parents work, and she revisits key events from her life, causing her to reevaluate herself and how she wants to live.
MID F Mass

Breakaway: Beyond the Goal
Morgan - NONFICTION, BIOGRAPHY / MEMOIR
Olympic gold medal soccer player Alex Morgan details her path to success, from her childhood to her time on the United States’ National team.
MID 796.334 MOR

We Are All Made of Molecules
Nielsen - REALISTIC
Brilliant but socially-challenged Stewart and mean-girl Ashley must find common ground when Stewart’s father moves in with Ashley’s mother, whose gay ex-husband lives in their guest house.
MID F Nielsen and YA Nielsen

Trapped
Northrup - SURVIVAL
Seven students are stranded at their school during a blizzard that shuts down the power and heat, freezes the pipes, and threatens their survival.
YA Northrup

This Dark Endeavor: The Apprenticeship of Victor Frankenstein
Oppel - HORROR, HISTORICAL FICTION
When his twin brother falls ill, VictorFrankenstein embarks on a dangerous quest to create the forbidden Eliastransformed into a monster.
MID F Oppel and YA Oppel

When My Name Was Keoko
Park - HISTORICAL FICTION
A brother and sister face the increasingly oppressive occupation of Korea by Japan during World War II, which threatens to suppress Korean culture entirely.
MID F Park

Queer, There, and Everywhere: 23 People Who Changed the World
Prager - NONFICTION, LGBTTIA+
A LGBTQ chronicle for teens shares stories from 23 influential gay and gender-ambiguous notables from the era of the Roman Empire to the present.
MID 306.766 PRA

The Hired Girl
Schlitz - HISTORICAL FICTION
Over the summer of 1911, Joan—a hired girl cleaning and cooking for six dollars a week—pours her heart out in her diary as she seeks a new, better life for herself.
MID F Schlitz

Salt to the Sea
Sepetys - HISTORICAL FICTION
As World War II draws to a close, teen refugees try to escape the war’s final dangers, only to find themselves aboard a ship with a target on its hull.
YA Sepetys

The Berlin Boxing Club
Sharenow - HISTORICAL FICTION
In 1936 Berlin, Karl Stern, considered Jewish despite a non-religious upbringing, learns to box from the legendary Max Schmeling while struggling with the realities of the Holocaust.
YA Sharenow

Hidden Figures
Shetterly - NONFICTION, HISTORY
The amazing true story of four African-American female mathematicians at NASA who helped achieve some of the greatest moments in our space program.
J $10.92 LEE and YA $10.92 LEE

Nimona
Stevenson - GRAPHIC NOVEL, FANTASY
Nimona, an impulsive young shapeshifter with a violent side, wreaks some serious havoc when she becomes sidekick to the villainous Lord Blackheart.
GN Stevenson

Golden Boy
Sullivan - REALISTIC
A Tanzanian albino boy is hunted across the country by poachers who want to sell his body parts because of a superstition that they are magical.
MID F Sullivan

Samurai Rising
Turner - NONFICTION, HISTORY
This is the story of Minamoto Yoshitsune, the greatest samurai in Japanese history, who led a daring military campaign against the Minamoto clan who murdered his family.
MID 952.01 MIN

Top Prospect
Volponi - SPORTS
Travis gets the opportunity of a lifetime when the coach of the Gainesville University football program offers him a scholarship before Travis even gets to high school.
MID F Volponi

Heads Up Psychology
Weeks - NONFICTION, SCIENCE
In clear language with attractive graphics, this book explores big ideas from all areas of psychology including psychoanalysis, intelligence, and mental disorders.
MID 158.1 WE

Code Name Verity
Wein - HISTORICAL FICTION
In 1943, a British plane crashes in Nazi-occupied France and the survivor tells a tale of friendship, war, espionage, and courage as she says what she must to survive while keeping secret all that she can.
YA WEIN

The Sun Is Also A Star
Yoon - ROMANCE, REALISTIC
Natasha is an undocumented immigrant who believes in science and facts. Daniel is a romantic with a strict superstition that they are magical.
YA Yoon