



Kimberly F. Kubisch
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Dear Parents/Guardians:

As the end of the school year approaches, hopefully one of your goals will be to make reading one of the pastimes that you and your family enjoy this summer. Summer reading supports achievement in all the content areas throughout the school year. We are working hard to ensure high standards and high achievement for all students, and we need the support and encouragement from you, the families, to reach this goal.

Please visit the City School District of Albany's Web site for summer reading ideas and recommended books for students. For students in kindergarten through grade 5, there is a list of reading/writing ideas that students can do as soon as summer begins. They can complete these activities in a notebook or journal. Please read through the reader response ideas to support your children as they read. Students should also keep a list of the books that they read in the summer, and they can return this list to their teacher in order to be credited for their summer reading efforts.

Please be sure to sign your name at the end of their reading list. These books that are recorded will count towards the 100-book challenge in the district's *Readers to Leaders* literacy campaign. There have been new book titles added to the Great Elementary Reads list. These newly added titles include those that are recommended in the New York State Common Core Learning Standards. We want to encourage children to read lots of nonfiction and informational books!

Students currently in grade 5 will be receiving a letter and packet about summer reading from Margaret Di Giulio, secondary English language arts instructional supervisor. They will be asked to read one nonfiction text from a generated list and complete a writing journal to return to their grade 6 teachers, who will discuss the book with students in September.

In addition, the children will also receive information from the Albany Public Library, which will sponsor a reading campaign. The library will award prizes for reading books, and also will offer story times, crafts and special programs all summer in the various branches! Please encourage your children to **read, read and read** this summer! Enjoy!

Sincerely,

Kim Kubisch