

**Hurst-Euless-Bedford ISD**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading List**  
**2010**

In an effort to encourage reading among students entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade in August 2010, HEB language arts teachers are requiring **all incoming 7<sup>th</sup> graders** to select at least one book from the following list to read prior to the beginning of school. All students will be discussing the book they choose during the first unit of work in either their reading or English class next year.

Students for whom participation in an advanced English class is a probability have one required title to read and are encouraged to also choose other titles from this list in addition to the one required text. The required text is *Airman* by Eoin Colfer. Other students may choose this title as well.

**Required Reading for 7<sup>th</sup> Grade GT and 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Pre-AP:**

***Airman* by Eoin Colfer**

Conor Broekhart was born to fly. In fact, legend has it that he was born flying in a hot air balloon at the world's fair. In the 1890's Conor and his family live on the sovereign Saltee Islands, off the Irish coast. Conor spends his days studying the science of flight with his tutor and exploring the castle with the king's daughter, Princess Isabella, but his idyllic life changes forever the day he discovers a conspiracy to overthrow the king. Thrown unfairly into prison, the months turn into years, but eventually the day comes when Conor must find the courage to trust his revolutionary designs and take to the skies.

**All Other Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> Graders choose one title from among the following:**

***Airman* by Eoin Colfer**

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***Armageddon Summer* by J. Yolen**

Fourteen-year-old Marina, with her younger brothers, is caught up in her mother's religious fanaticism. When her mother takes them to Mount Weeupcut to await the End of the World, Marina meets sixteen-year-old Jed, who is there to look after his father. The story, told in both Marina's and Jed's point of view, is a story about friendships, love, loss, and faith.

***Artemis Fowl* by Eoin Colfer**

When a twelve-year-old evil genius tried to restore his family fortune by capturing a fairy and demanding a ransom in gold, the fairies fight back with magic, technology, and a particularly nasty troll.

***Banner in the Sky* by James Ramsey Ullman**

Fifteen years ago, Rudi Matt's father died trying to climb the Citadel, the last unconquered summit in the Alps. Now, at 16, Rudi wants to place his banner on the top to prove that it can be done.

***Downsiders* by Neal Shusterman**

When fourteen-year-old Lindsay meets Talon and discovers the Downsiders world which had evolved from the subway built in New York in 1867 by Alfred Ely Beach, she and her new friend experience the clash of their two cultures.

***High Heat by Carl Deuker***

Sixteen-year-old Shane Hunter has it all: a spacious home, private school, good grades, good friends, and a supportive father who encourages his talent as a pitcher. Suddenly, all that is gone, and Shane's sense of fairness and purpose in life begins to crumble.

***Just Ella by Margaret Peterson Haddix***

In this continuation of the Cinderella story, fifteen-year-old Ella finds that accepting Prince Charming's proposal ensnares her in a suffocating tangle of palace rules and royal etiquette, so she plots to escape.

***The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe by C. S. Lewis***

Four English school children find their way through the back of a wardrobe into the magic land of Narnia and assist Aslan, the golden lion, to triumph over the White Witch, who has cursed the land with eternal winter.

***The Maze by Will Hobbs***

Fourteen-year-old Rick Waller feels that his life is unfair. After his grandmother's death, he travels to several foster homes and is eventually placed in Blue Canyon Youth Detention Center. After escaping and meeting Lon, Rick learns about the endangered condors and finds his way through the Maze Canyonlands National Park and the maze of his own life.

***Night Hoops by Carl Deuker***

When Nick Abbott makes the varsity basketball team as a sophomore, his life seems to be perfect. Unfortunately, disaster strikes when his parents suddenly separate and his friend and teammate is implicated in the shooting of a neighborhood boy. Can Nick concentrate on basketball and lead his team to the championship, or will problems off the court interfere with this focus?

***The Princess Diaries by Meg Cabot***

Fourteen-year-old Mia thinks she is just a typical teenager until her father comes for a visit. Not only does she find out that she is the princess of Genovia, but she is also forced to take princess lessons from her overbearing grandmother. Will Mia be able to keep the news a secret from her peers at Albert Einstein High School?