

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading

At MICDS, **three** books are required for summer reading in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, but we of course encourage students to read many more books for pleasure throughout the summer. 😊

**For English class**, every student should read the award-winning book *Touching Spirit Bear* by Ben Mikaelson. Please **complete the attached assignment** to go along with the novel. Your work is due the first week of school, but your teacher will inform you of the exact date to bring it in.

In addition, we have **an author visit** lined up for next year with **Alan Gratz**. Therefore, students are required to read a novel written by him this summer. Please choose ONE novel from the list below:

*Prisoner B-3087*

*Projekt 1065*

*Code of Honor*

*The Brooklyn Nine*

*Fantasy Baseball*

*The League of Seven* (a series)

Finally, **students can choose any novel** for their final summer read. While there is no specific assignment attached to this novel, students should be ready to share a brief summary and recommendation of the book during the first week of school.

\*IF students need book suggestions, please see this year's Truman Award winners for a list of titles voted upon by other middle schoolers. Both sites below are good resources.

<http://www.maslonline.org/page/1819FinalNominees/2018-2019-MASL-Readers-Awards-Final-Nominees.htm>

<https://sites.google.com/site/trumanreadersaward/2017-18/all-fall-down>

If you have any questions, please contact 7<sup>th</sup> grade English teachers: Kelly Walsh [kwalsh@micds.org](mailto:kwalsh@micds.org) OR Maggie Dunson [mdunson@micds.org](mailto:mdunson@micds.org)

## Touching Spirit Bear

### Totem Pole Project, Paragraph & Presentation

In *Touching Spirit Bear*, Edwin tells Cole: “Your totem is your story, your search, and your past” (220).

#### DIRECTIONS:

**PART 1: Create** a five-layer totem pole consisting of animals you feel best represent you. This might include references to your physical appearance, personality, beliefs, a time when you overcame a challenge, or life goals.

Please note:

- ❖ You are not just choosing your favorite animals! Each animal must be representative of your *story*.
- ❖ Be creative!!! Your totem pole must be three dimensional.
- ❖ In class, you will prepare a short presentation of your totem pole.

**\*\*\*You will not need to bring your totem pole into school until the second week because we do not start academic classes right away.**

**PART 2: Write** a brief, one-paragraph explanation about how each animal you chose truly reflects you as a person. You only need one paragraph total, not a paragraph for each animal you chose. Please be detailed and creative; avoid just listing your thoughts.

**\*\*\*A Note to Parents & Tutors:** *Students only need to write the rough draft this summer. We will revise and edit it in class after some instruction takes place. A summative grade will be given based on revisions, NOT the final draft.*

**\*\*\*Be sure you have an electronic copy of this paragraph that you can email to yourself during the first week of school in order to participate in class revisions.**

#### Paragraph Requirements:

- At least ½ page
- Double spaced
- 12 point font / Times New Roman