Dear Parents/Guardians:

Below is a list of suggested reading for social studies. I am asking that all students read the short story "A Sound of Thunder" by Ray Bradbury. We will discuss the story's relation to the study of history the first week of class. A PDF version of the short story can be found on my website under "Suggested Reading".

8th Grade, American History: Civil War - Present:

All of the "Dear America" series books are grade level appropriate and fun to read.

Civil War

Seeds of America trilogy "Chains", "Forge" & "Ashes" by Laura Halse Anderson
(Set in Revolution but deals with slavery issue) **Joint ELA/Social Studies recommended reads!*
"Little Women" by Louisa May Alcott
"I Survived: The Battle of Gettysburg, 1863" by Lauren Tarshis
"Hazardous Tales: The Underground Abductor" (graphic novel) by Nathan Hale

WWI & 1920's - 1930's

"The Wizard of Oz" by Frank Baum
"Poetry for Young People: Langston Hughes" by David Roessel
"Hazardous Tales: Treaties, Trenches, Mud & Blood" (graphic novel) by Nathan Hale
"The Jungle" by Upton Sinclair **Joint ELA/Social Studies recommended read!*
"The Great Gatsby" by F. Scott Fitzgerald **Joint ELA/Social Studies recommended read!*
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" by Ernest Hemingway
"Grapes of Wrath" by John Steinbeck
Dear America series "Survival in the Storm, The Dust Bowl Diary, Texas, 1935" by Katelan Janke

World War II

"The Diary of Anne Frank" by Anne Frank
"Maus" (graphic novel) by Art Spiegelman **Joint ELA/Social Studies recommended read!*
"Night" by Elie Wiesel **Joint ELA/Social Studies recommended read!*
"Once there was a War" by John Steinbeck
"The Book Thief" by Markus Zusak **Joint ELA/Social Studies recommended read!*
"The Greatest Generation" by Tom Brokaw
"Fahrenheit 451" by Ray Bradbury **Joint ELA/Social Studies recommended read!*

Cold War to Present Day

"Animal Farm" by George Orwell **Joint ELA/Social Studies recommended read!*
"Lord of the Flies" by William Golding **Joint ELA/Social Studies recommended read!*
"Poetry for Young People: *Maya Angelou*" by Dr. Edwin Graves Wilson
"The Better Butter Battle Book" by Dr. Seuss
"The Lorax" by Dr. Seuss
Dear America series "The Journal of Patrick S. Flaherty: US Marines, Vietnam, 1968" by Ellen Emerson White
"War Dogs: Tales of Canine Heroism, History & Love" by Rebecca Frankel