Students in grades 5-12 are required to read at least two books over the summer. Because these works will form the basis for class discussion and writing assignments in English classes during the opening weeks of school, we ask that students use post-its or a pen/pencil to mark passages that are important. You do not need to annotate (in other words, you don't need to write notes in the margins). Please buy only new or used books that have no markings in them at all. The books can be purchased at Chaucer's Bookstore, 3321 State Street, Loreto Plaza, Santa Barbara.

REQUIRED READ #1: San Francisco Historical Fiction
Please select ONE of the following novels.

**AL CAPONE DOES MY SHIRTS** Gennifer Choldenko
In 1935, Moose Flanagan and his family move to Alcatraz Island, where his father gets a job as an electrician at the prison. Moose’s misadventures include an entanglement with the warden's pretty but troublesome daughter. Family dilemmas are at the center of the story, but history and setting—including plenty of references to the prison's most infamous inmate, mob boss Al Capone--play an important part, too. The story, told with humor and skill, reveals what it was like for the children of prison guards and other workers to actually grow up on Alcatraz Island.

**OUTRUN THE MOON** Stacey Lee
Fifteen-year-old Mercy Wong is determined to break from the poverty of Chinatown, San Francisco in 1906, and an education at St. Clare’s School for Girls is her best hope. Although St. Clare’s is off-limits to all but the wealthiest white girls, Mercy gains admittance through a mix of cunning and a little bribery. Not to be undone by a bunch of spoiled heiresses, Mercy stands strong—until disaster strikes. On April 18, a historic earthquake rocks San Francisco. Though fires might rage, and the city may be in shambles, Mercy can’t sit by while they wait for the army to bring help. But what can one teenage girl do to heal so many suffering in her broken city?

**SHOOTING KABUL** N.H. Senzai
In the summer of 2001, twelve year old Fadi’s parents make the difficult decision to illegally leave Afghanistan and move the family to the United States. During their escape, the Taliban descend, chaos ensues, and Fadi loses his younger sister Mariam. Adjusting to life in San Francisco isn’t easy for Fadi, and as the events of September 11th unfold, the prospects of locating Mariam in a war torn Afghanistan seem slim.

REQUIRED READ #2: Science Fiction
Please select ONE of the following novels.

**FEED** M.T. Anderson
For Titus and his friends, it started out like any ordinary trip to the moon - a chance to party during spring break and play with some stupid low-grav at the Ricochet Lounge. But that was before the crazy hacker caused all their feeds to malfunction, sending them to the hospital to lie around with nothing inside their heads for days. And it was before Titus met Violet, a beautiful,
brainy teenage girl who has decided to fight the feed and its omnipresent ability to categorize human thoughts and desires.

**STATION ELEVEN** Emily St. John Mandel
Twenty years later after a devastating flu pandemic wipes out civilization as we know it, Kirsten moves between the settlements of the altered world with a small troupe of actors. They call themselves The Traveling Symphony, and they have dedicated themselves to keeping the remnants of art alive. But when they arrive in St. Deborah by the Water, they encounter a violent prophet. And as the story moves back and forth in time, vividly depicting life before and after the pandemic, the strange twist of fate that connects them all will be revealed.

**THE LAST BOOK IN THE UNIVERSE** Rodman Philbrick
The story is set in a post-apocalyptic city called The Urb, which has been disturbed by an earthquake. Books are a thing of the past, and most people no longer value reading and writing. Spaz, the sixteen-year-old protagonist, whose adoptive parents have abandoned him, runs errands for a gang-leader and is sent to rob a very old man who possesses one of the last books in the world.

**ACROSS THE UNIVERSE** Beth Revis
As the spaceship *Godspeed* travels toward a new earth, the lives of 100 cryogenically frozen settlers hang in the balance after someone endeavors to quietly kill them. Amy is caught inside an enclosed world where nothing makes sense. *Godspeed*'s 2,312 passengers have forfeited all control to Eldest, a tyrannical and frightening leader. Amy desperately wants to trust Elder. But should she put her faith in a boy who has never seen life outside the ship's cold metal walls? All Amy knows is that she and Elder must race to unlock *Godspeed*'s hidden secrets before whoever woke her tries to kill again.

**THE MARTIAN** Andy Weir
Six days ago, astronaut Mark Watney became one of the first people to walk on Mars. Now, he's sure he'll be the first person to die there. After a dust storm nearly kills him and forces his crew to evacuate while thinking him dead, Mark finds himself stranded and completely alone with no way to even signal Earth that he's alive—and even if he could get word out, his supplies would be gone long before a rescue could arrive. Drawing on his ingenuity, his engineering skills—and a refusal to quit—he confronts one seemingly insurmountable obstacle after the next.
WARNING: SOME OFFENSIVE LANGUAGE.