



Shrewsbury Public Schools

Amy B. Clouter
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment

June 3, 2019

To: School Committee

From: Amy Clouter
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment

Re: Summer Reading 2019

Author and educator Jim Trelease said, "No player in the NBA was born wanting to play basketball. The desire to play ball or to read must be planted...shooting baskets with a child creates a basketball player; reading with a child creates a reader." As curriculum leaders in the district reflected on our Summer Reading structure, we wondered together about how well our summer reading program was growing readers.

Anecdotal feedback we've received at each level from students, teachers, and parents suggested that children that enjoy reading happily continue to do so over the summer. Our concern then centered on students for whom reading is more struggle than pleasure. We were confident that, working together with educators and librarians, we could revise the program and boost engagement for all students. Accordingly, this summer we are trying a new approach. In my presentation I look forward to sharing the details of what the new program will look like.

Briefly, at every level, we aspire to:

- empower and support students to make choices about what to read based on their reading ability and interests
- foster interest and engagement by partnering with the Shrewsbury Public Library, and
- spark joy and connection when school resumes by engaging students in thematic discussions (versus book-based assignments)

**The more
you read,
the more
you know.
The more
you know,
the smarter
you grow.**

This plan came together as a result of the hard work of committed educators in the district and in our community. I want to acknowledge our talented Curriculum team:

Liza Trombley	English Department Director, Grades 9-12
Lisa Daly	English Language Arts Curriculum Coordinator, Grades 5-8
Rebecca Dumphy	Elementary Curriculum Coordinator Parker Road PreSchool & Beal Early Childhood Center
Erin Kendrick	Elementary Curriculum Coordinator, Coolidge School
Shelley Hoey	Elementary Curriculum Coordinator, Floral Street School
Kathleen Camerato-Barnes	Elementary Curriculum Coordinator, Floral Street School
Lisa Papazian	Elementary Curriculum Coordinator, Paton School
Donna Rice	Elementary Curriculum Coordinator, Spring Street School

Just as importantly, I'd like to thank the professionals (and volunteers!) in our Media Centers and at the Shrewsbury Public Library. All of the people listed below embraced the new approach, enthusiastically joined the effort and provided resources to guide students and families:

Ellen Dolan	Director, Shrewsbury Public Library
Annie Lee King	Young Adult Librarian, SPL
Sonja Drotar	Head of the Children's Department, SPL
Shawna Powers	Director of Instructional Technology and Media Services
Emily Bredberg	Library Media Specialist, Shrewsbury High School
Nancy Bedard	Library Media Specialist, Oak Middle School
Hilary Clegg	Library Media Specialist, Sherwood Middle School
Pamela Santilli	Library Media Specialist, Elementary Schools

Attached please find some of the related resources that are available to parents and families on our district and individual school websites. I am eager to explore them in more depth together.

