



May 2019

Dear seventh grade parents,

We are so excited to teach your children this fall! To prepare the students for an exciting and productive school year in English, over the summer, each student will be required to read **one book**. When we return in the fall, there will be a quiz and a writing assignment over their chosen novel. Notes are recommended, but not required, to prepare for these assessments.

Your children will have a choice of reading *City of Ember* by Jeanne DuPrau or *Nothing But The Truth* by Avi. Students only have to read one novel but are free to read both. Below is a summary of both novels.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email Jason DiGioia (jdigioia@denverjds.org) or Barbara Silberman (bsilberman@denverjds.org). Have a wonderful summer!

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City of Ember: Jeanne DuPrau

Many hundreds of years ago, the city of Ember was created by the Builders to contain everything needed for human survival. It worked...but now the storerooms are almost out of food, crops are blighted, corruption is spreading through the city and worst of all—the lights are failing. Soon Ember could be engulfed by darkness... But when two children, Lina and Doon, discover fragments of an ancient parchment, they begin to wonder if there could be a way out of Ember. Can they decipher the words from long ago and find a new future for everyone? Will the people of Ember listen to them?

Nothing But the Truth: Avi

In this thought-provoking examination of freedom and patriotism, ninth-grader, Philip Malloy, is kept from joining the track team by his failing grades in English class. Convinced that the teacher just doesn't like him, Philip concocts a plan to get transferred out of her class. Breaking the school's policy of silence during the national anthem, he hums along, and ends up in a crisis at the center of the nation's attention.