

# West Scranton High School Summer Reading List

## Junior 2006-2007 School Year

One of the greatest abilities we possess as humans is the ability to read. Reading opens our minds to many different worlds – worlds we otherwise might not have the opportunity to explore. It is the objective of this program to help enrich and further develop students' reading skills. **Therefore, please realize that this program is not optional.**

Upon returning to school, students will be evaluated during **the second week of school** regarding their comprehension of the selected titles. **Any student absent on a given day and not possessing a legal excuse** (i.e. doctor, court, funeral, military) **will be permitted to make up the test but will not be awarded a school higher than a 75%.** Students' scores will be calculated as part of their first quarter average; this score **must** be included and may not be dropped.

In addition, this year there is an extra incentive to complete the summer reading assignment. On a selected day, all those students who pass their summer reading test with a 70% or above will be excused from school at 11:10 am. Furthermore, each student who scores an 80% or higher will have his or her name placed in a drawing, one winner per grade level, for a \$25 gift card to Borders.

You are **required** to read **all four** of the following titles:

- Tennessee Williams, *A Streetcar Named Desire*

It is a short list of 20th-century American plays that continue to have the same power and impact as when they first appeared - *A Streetcar Named Desire* is one of those plays. The story of the fading and desperate Blanche DuBois and how her sensuous and brutal brother-in-law, Stanley Kowalski, pushes her over the edge is now classic.

- Bel Kaufman, *Up the Down Staircase*

A woman teacher tries to make an impact on inner-city high school kids in this social drama on American education.

- Robert Frost, *North of Boston*

A volume of poetry (1913-1914) that contains many of the poet's finest, best-known works: "Mending Wall," "After Apple-Picking," "The Death of the Hired Man," and many more.

- F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*

The timeless story of Jay Gatsby and his love for Daisy Buchanan is widely acknowledged to be the closest thing to the Great American Novel ever written.