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ACTION CONSIDERATION #21-50

TO: Board of Education
FROM: Dr. Mary Ticknor
DATE: March 7, 2022
SUBJECT: Proposed New Health Textbook and Novels for the 2022-2023 School Year

Proposed New Textbook for the 2022-2023 School Year

Course: Health
Glencoe Health

Mary H Bronson, PH.D.
McGraw Hill Publishers
ISBN-10 1264321554
ISBN-13 9781264321551

Proposed New Novels for the 2022-2023 School Year

Course: English I (Summer Option)
Take Me With You When You Go by Jennifer Niven and David Levithan
Genre: Fiction

Ezra Ahern wakes up one day to find his older sister, Bea, gone. No note, no sign, nothing but an email address hidden somewhere only he would find it. Ezra never expected to be left behind with their abusive stepfather and their neglectful mother - how is he supposed to navigate life without Bea?

Bea Ahern already knew she needed to get as far away from home as possible. But a message in her inbox changes everything, and she finds herself alone in a new city - without Ez, without a real plan - chasing someone who might not even want to be found.

As things unravel at home for Ezra, Bea confronts secrets about their past that will forever change the way they think about their family. Together and apart, broken by abuse but connected by love, this brother and sister must learn to trust themselves before they can find a way back to each other. - goodreads.com

Course: English I (Summer Option)

The Dark Matter of Mona Starr by Laura Lee Gulledge

Genre: YA Graphic Novel, Realistic Fiction

Sometimes, the world is too much for Mona Starr. She's sweet, geeky, and creative, but it's hard for her to make friends and connect with other people. She's like a lot of sensitive teenagers—but in the hands of graphic novelist Laura Lee Gulledge, Mona's struggle with depression takes on a vivid, concrete form. Mona calls it her Matter. The Matter gets everywhere, telling Mona she's not good enough, and that everyone around her wishes she would go away. But through therapy, art, writing, and the persistence of a few good friends, Mona starts to understand her Matter, and how she—and readers—can turn their fears into strengths. Heartfelt, emotionally vulnerable, and visually stunning, *The Dark Matter of Mona Starr* is a story that takes the inner life of a teenager seriously, while giving readers a new way to look at the universal quest for meaning and connection. -goodreads.com

Course: Supernatural Literature

The Haunting of Hill House by Shirley Jackson

Genre: Gothic Horror

It is the story of four seekers who arrive at a notoriously unfriendly pile called Hill House: Dr. Montague, an occult scholar looking for solid evidence of a "haunting"; Theodora, the lighthearted assistant; Eleanor, a friendless, fragile young woman well acquainted with poltergeists; and Luke, the future heir of Hill House. At first, their stay seems destined to be merely a spooky encounter with inexplicable phenomena. But Hill House is gathering its powers—and soon it will choose one of them to make its own. - goodreads.com

Course: English II Self-Contained

The Unwanted: Stories of the Syrian Refugees by Don Brown

Genre: YA Graphic Novel, Nonfiction

In the tradition of Don Brown's critically acclaimed, full-color nonfiction graphic novels *The Great American Dust Bowl* and Sibert Honor winning *Drowned City*, *The Unwanted* is an important, timely, and eye-opening exploration of the ongoing Syrian refugee crisis, exposing the harsh realities of living in, and trying to escape, a war zone.

Starting in 2011, refugees flood out of war-torn Syria in Exodus-like proportions. The surprising flood of victims overwhelms neighboring countries, and chaos follows. Resentment in host nations heightens as disruption and the cost of aid grows. By 2017, many want to turn their backs on the victims. The refugees are the unwanted.

Don Brown depicts moments of both heartbreaking horror and hope in the ongoing Syrian refugee crisis. Shining a light on the stories of the survivors, *The Unwanted* is a testament to the courage and resilience of the refugees and a call to action for all those who read.-goodreads.com

