



BYRNES HIGH SCHOOL REQUIRED SUMMER READING LIST 2026-2027

Summer reading for Honors and AP English students at James F. Byrnes High School is **required**. Students are assigned TWO works to read on their own BEFORE the first day of class. Students should read carefully and critically. These books are available at local libraries and bookstores as well as from online booksellers. Students and parents are reminded that students should always read *unabridged versions. Teachers will test students on their knowledge and understanding of the summer reading during the first two weeks of the course.

ENGLISH 2 HONORS

- *Animal Farm*
(George Orwell)
- *To Kill a Mockingbird*
(Harper Lee)

ENGLISH 3 HONORS

- *Saints at the River*
(Ron Rash)
- *The Anthropocene Reviewed*
(John Green)

ENGLISH 4 HONORS

- *Jane Eyre*
(Charlotte Bronte)
- *The Importance of Being Earnest*
(Oscar Wilde)

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AP ENGLISH LITERATURE

- *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*
(Bryan Stevenson)

*Either published version of *Just Mercy* is acceptable

- *Educated*
(Tara Westover)

- *Wuthering Heights*
(Emily Bronte)

AND

Choose ONE of these Pulitzer Prize-winning contemporary works:

- *Olive Kitteridge*
(Elizabeth Strout--2008)
- *The Road*
(Cormac McCarthy--2006)
- *The Underground Railroad*
(Colson Whitehead--2017)

