

# TEC Library

Subliminal message:

"Read more books! Reading is FUNdaMENTAL!"

## Library Letters

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### "Spring" into some NEW BOOKS!

Spring might be a time for people to head outdoors for some much needed Vitamin D, but it's also a great time to read some excellent new Young Adult titles—all of which are new additions at the Tyece Library.



Strong, intelligent, independent, self-actuating female protagonists form the core of *Eon* by Alison Goodman, *Graceling* by Kristin Cashore, and *Thirteenth Child* by Patricia C Wrede. Each of characters overcomes physical or emotional challenges, discrimination and sexual harassment in order to gain a more defined sense of self, purpose and personal power. Each learns that by subjecting herself to the whims of others, or the expectations of society she impedes the development of her own identity, special skills, and above all, finding the kind of happiness that results from "following your

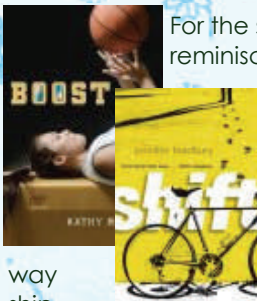
bliss". These gals are decidedly not whiny, co-dependent Bella Swans! [of *Twilight* fame]

... And speaking of vampires—they finally may have a bit of competition as zombies make their return debut. Following the *Dawn of the Dead* tradition, zombies in Carrie Ryan's *The Forest of Hands and Teeth* dwell in the forest preying on the living who fail to adhere to the rules of the Sisterhood.



*Generation Dead* by Daniel Waters takes a comical approach to the "differently biotic" in a world where the "living impaired" co-mingle with the actual living and struggle for legal protection from those who want them eliminated.

For the sports-oriented reader, Kathy Mackel's *Boost* is reminiscent of Carl Deuker's *Gym Candy*, but from the perspective of a teen girl athlete whose determination to succeed on the senior basketball team leads her to consider "boosting" with steroids to improve her game.



way  
ship

*Shift*, by Jennifer Bradbury, focuses on two post-high-school-graduation teens who cycle their across-country only to apparently lose their friend along the way. When one friend returns but the other vanishes, the FBI gets involved and choices must be made between the truth and loyalty.

*Dark Dude* (Oscar Hijuelos), *Wintergirls* (Laurie Halse Anderson), and *Marcelo in the Real World* (Francisco X Stork) belong to the "real-life dramas" genre many students request. In these, characters must deal with Mid-Western racism, eating disorders and mental challenges, respectively, in order to truly discover their own strength of character, abilities, and desire, not just merely to survive, but to live.



Any underlined brick red items below are links

### Know Your Library!

Of all the "literacies" which have become vogue-ish in the past few years, **Information Literacy** remains "the Godfather" of them all.

Even reading—considered the most essential skill for academic success—takes a back seat to "learning how to learn".

A person can easily "do" things that require absolutely no reading. However, something as simple as making cocoa requires the use of **information literacy** skills:

1. Define the task [I'm making cocoa]
2. Gather information [Do I have the ingredients? Can I boil water? How does one warm milk?]
3. Process/use information [Put the kettle on. Some cocoas are instant.]
4. Synthesize decisions [Cocoa first, water second works better than the other way.]
5. Loop back and try again if necessary.

### Spring-time Reminders

Now that the "countdown" has begun, it's easy to become more relaxed about "the rules". Although "lightening up" can have beneficial results, one rule regarding the library is essential: students MUST come with a note to visit the library during class.

Some students seem compelled to attempt the ole skip-a-roo, especially in the spring. Without a note I can only deduce two things: 1) the teacher did not give a note, or 2) the student is skipping.

In either situation, I will collect each student's name and teacher before sending him/her back to class to retrieve written permission.

Principal's will be notified as necessary.

### Monthly Drawing Winner #7!

Congratulations to **Evan Rhone**, a GC student. He won a \$25 gift card from Barnes & Noble.

For more information about how students can participate, click on the link above and print out the poster to put up in your classroom. **The last drawing will be May 29.**

Contact your TEC Librarian by email: [carlsolm@hsd401.org](mailto:carlsolm@hsd401.org)