



Our Children, Our School  
Our Future

## Netcong Elementary School

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*Mrs. Kathleen Walsh  
Superintendent*

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Principal*

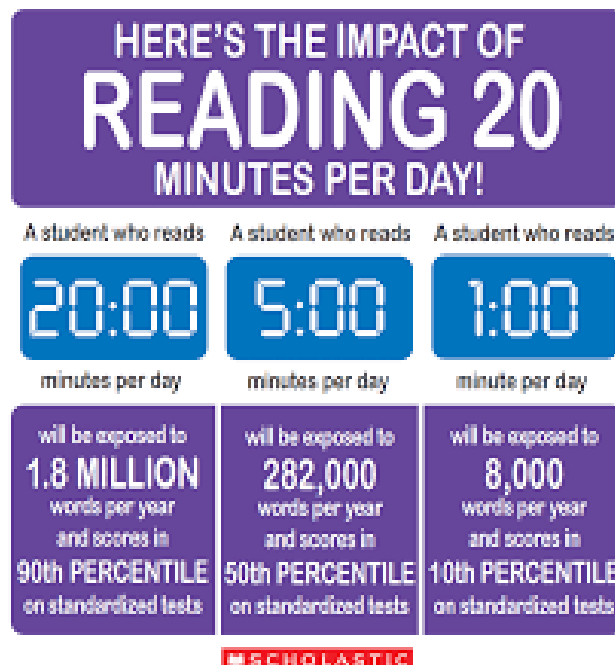
June 15, 2020

Re: Summer Assignments/2020-2021 School Supplies

Parents and Guardians:

Happy Summer! As many of us can recall from our childhood and even as adults, summer can be a season full of good times and great memories. However, a great deal of research has proven that if children do not continue to learn over the summer, they experience learning losses. This is commonly referred to as “the summer slide.” In fact, in a study published by the RAND Corporation, McCombs and colleagues (2011) noted that students’ performance falls by about a month during the summer if learning does not continue.

The Netcong School District staff want to ensure that all students are successful in their new grade next year. Although summer “packets” will not be assigned, in an effort to eliminate the “achievement gap,” we ask that parents ensure their child(ren) read an average of 20 minutes per day. As displayed in the image below, a student who reads 20 minutes a day will be exposed to 1.8 million words per year and scores in the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile on standardized tests. On the contrary, a student who reads 5 minutes per day will be exposed to 282,000 words per year and scores in the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile.



Please help us ensure your children are reading over the summer so learning performance does not drop! Attached, you will find several helpful documents that may help you and your child achieve this goal:

Document 1= “Fun Reading at Home Ideas” and “How do I get my 20 minutes in?”

Document 2= Additional fun ways to read

Document 3= Reading Bingo

Document 4= How to help your child become a better reader – questions to ask

Document 5= Tips for preventing the summer slide

Document 6= Home Reading Log

Our staff would love to see every students’ summer reading log. While “summer reading” is not required, **we encourage all students to bring their reading logs on the first day of the 20-21 school year. I know our staff is excited to hear all about what our students have read and celebrate the summer reading accomplishments of our students!!!** Additionally, the student who has read the most during the summer (as written in their reading log) will earn a gift card.

As far as school supplies, you will receive communication in August outlining the supplies that need to be purchased for the 2020-2021 school year. We will continue to update the school web page during the summer months and return to school mailings will occur mid to late August. Until then, we at Netcong Elementary School wish all of you a safe and happy summer!

Sincerely,



Kurt Ceresnak  
Principal