

Gunston Middle School Library

Jeff Luttrell and Jenny Shanker, Librarians

703-228-6957

<https://gunston.apsva.us/gunston-library/>

Dear Parent:

Your child has chosen to participate in the Teen Advisory Board (TAB), a reading and discussion group sponsored by Arlington Public Library and Arlington Public Schools, which meets in all of the middle schools. We sponsor the Gunston TAB group along with two colleagues: Nico Piro, Youth Services Librarian at Central Library and Caitlin Hawe-Ndrio, Youth Services Librarian at Shirlington Library.

Students in TAB read, review, and discuss books from the public library that have recently been purchased or are being considered for purchase. Each middle school group votes on and publishes its own list of recommended books each spring.

The selected books vary in their reading and maturity levels, much like our students. Because of this, not every TAB book will appeal to every child. We have found that children are generally very good self-selectors and will not take a book that makes them uncomfortable or is too difficult. Since the reading for this group is completely voluntary and we do not assign books, any child is free to read or not read what he or she chooses. If you or your child comes across a book that you find objectionable, simply return the book to the library and your child can choose a new one.

TAB will meet during your student's lunch in the library on alternating Wednesdays starting on 10/4/17. All dates are listed on the Gunston website under the Library menu.

Students bring their lunches to the library on TAB days and eat together by grade while discussing the books.

We think that the TAB experience is a positive one, introducing young people to many excellent books and allowing them to develop reading and thinking skills. We hope that your child finds participating in TAB an enjoyable and rewarding experience. Please feel free to call me with any questions, concerns, or comments.

Sincerely,

Jeff Luttrell and Jenny Shanker