

AMS SCHOOLWIDE READING INITIATIVE

We are excited to announce the rollout of:

Panthers “PAWS” for Reading

WHAT: A daily school-wide Silent Sustained Reading session. Each session will last for 10 minutes. Students and teachers are encouraged to select books or e-books that interest them!

WHY: To encourage daily independent pleasure reading among all students. Daily reading has been proven to develop reading, writing, thinking, communication, and vocabulary skills for students of all ages across the board. By actively supporting our educational values through school-wide reading, the team at AMS aims to continue fostering the development of lifelong readers and thinkers.

WHEN: Each instructional day (Mon.-Thurs.) at the start of 1st block (7:30am-7:40am).

HOW: First, it's important to select a book that interests you. Keep this book with you each day – you never know when you can find a few minutes to read! See details below on how to locate books and e-books. An announcement will be made over the PA system (or by your 1st block teacher online) to begin each session.

WHO: Students, teachers, staff, administrators – everyone at AMS!

WHERE: Wherever you are in AMS (or virtually) during the start of first block.

Helpful Tips:

- Students and teachers are encouraged to **READ** silently without distraction – a physical novel or an e-book or an audio book w/ headphones (teachers will be monitoring with Go Guardian).
- Teachers will also participate and model by example.
- Here are links and information that can help you find physical and electronic books (see Mrs. Misener, Reading Specialist, in room D-13 with questions or to browse her classroom library):

AMS Follett Destiny: How to browse and reserve books through the AMS Library
<https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/ui/13605>

Junior Library Guild: An e-book resource
<https://jlg.ipublishcentral.com/bookshelf>

SORA (log in through Clever): An e-book resource
<https://soraapp.com/welcome/login/320575>

EPIC: An e-book resource
<https://www.getepic.com> (class code: vhb7723)

What to Read Next: A tool for finding your next great book!
<https://www.literature-map.com/>

The Power of Reading: Message from a teen to other reluctant readers
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wznroZvpVHU>

Statistics and Food for Thought:

A university study explored in “We Are Teachers” demonstrated that **reading reduces stress by 68%**, more so than listening to music, having a cup of tea, or even taking a walk.

A study from the National Academy of Sciences showed that **people who read may be 2.5 times less likely to develop Alzheimer’s disease** than those who don’t engage in as much mental activity.

According to a Renaissance study from 2020, **six extra minutes of reading per day can help turn a struggling reader into one who meets or surpasses their grade’s benchmark**. Students who read 15 minutes per day make even more gains.

The key is to find books that you’re interested in and that you’re able to read comfortably. How do you become a stronger, faster athlete or a better musician? Through practice. The same goes for reading! If you haven’t found the right book yet, see Mrs. Misener in room D-13 with your English teacher’s permission or email me at andrea.misener@accomack.k12.va.us

“The most powerful motivator that schools can offer to build lifelong readers is to provide students with time in the school day for free and voluntary reading.”

– Kelly Gallagher, *Readicide*



Panther PRIDE...Runs Deep!

Ten Reasons

Reading is rewarding.

[illegible]

Reading makes you a better writer.

"One characteristic emerges as a significant predictor of commitment...
 Grit: Grit is passion and perseverance for very long-term goals. Grit is finishing what you start. Grit is sticking with your future, day in, day out, not just for the week and not just for the month, but day in, day out, not just for the week, not just for the month, but day in, day out, not just working really hard to make that future a reality."
 (Angela Lee Duckworth)

Almost 50% of people with the lowest literacy skills live in poverty.

14.5% of Americans with poor reading skills are underemployed.

Only 32% of students in 2010 were ready for college-level reading as predicted by the ACT.

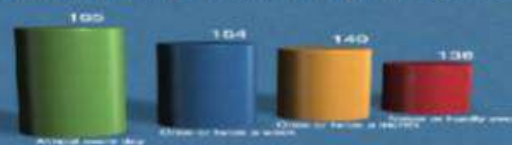
"Resulting in an essential component of college and workplace readiness." a

And 43% of entering college students must take vocational training courses, a

90% of those taking the nonmedical classes fail to even challenge anyone within eight years, a

"Reading has cognitive consequences that extend beyond its immediate task of lifting meaning from a particular passage." ²

Students who read for fun score higher on standardized writing tests. (Grade 12 in 2009; Scores range from 0-100)



"The 25 fastest growing professions have far greater than average literacy demands."

Software Programmer	Health Aide	Physical Therapist
Physician Assistant	Engineer	Dental Hygienist
Personal Care Aide	Veterinary Tech	Network Analyst
Medical Secretary		

In the business world, a person typically spends two hours a day reading.



25-40% of all children will have their educational careers cut short because they cannot read well enough. -

**Reading arms you
against oppression.**

*Over 80% of
proctos larvae
were functionally
illiterate.*



83% of juvenile offenders are unable to read well enough to participate in their case. »

Reading makes you smarter.

[illegible]