

## Olentangy Local School District Literature Selection Review

Teacher:	Gannon	School:	Hyatts
Book Title:	The 6 Most Important Decisions You'll Ever Make	Genre:	nonfiction
Author:	Sean Covey	Pages:	305
Publisher:	Simon & Schuster	Copyright:	2006

*In a brief rationale, please provide the following information relative to the book you would like added to the school's book collection for classroom use. You may attach additional pages as needed.*

**Book Summary and summary citation:** (suggested resources include book flap summaries, review summaries from publisher, book vendors, etc.)

The challenges teens face today are tougher than at any time in history: academic stress, parent communication, media bombardment, dating drama, abuse, bullying, addictions, depression, and peer pressure, just to name a few. And, like it or now, the choices teens make while navigating these challenges can make or break their futures.

The 6 Most Important Decisions You'll Ever Make, by Sean Covey, author of the international bestseller, The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens, gives teens the strong advice they need to make informed and wise decisions. Using real stories from teens around the world, Sean shows teens how to succeed in school, make good friends, get along with parents, wisely handle dating and sex issues, avoid or overcome addictions, build self-esteem, and much more. Jam-packed with original cartoons, inspiring quotes, and fun quizzes, this innovative book will help teens not only survive but thrive during their teen years and beyond. Building upon the legacy of The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens, this is an indispensable resource for teens everywhere. -Book Flap

**Provide an instructional rationale for the use of this title, including specific reference to the OLSD curriculum map(s):** (Curriculum maps may be referenced by grade/course and indicator number or curriculum maps with indicators highlighted may be attached to this form)

Nonfiction - Informational Text - CCS #1 #2 #4 #5 #7 #8

**Include two professional reviews of this title:** (a suggested list of resources for identifying professional reviews is shown below. Reviews may be "cut and pasted" (with citation) into the form or printed reviews may be attached to the form)

### Review #1

From School Library Journal

In this practical and lively self-help title, the author argues that teens have six key decisions to make, and that their choices will make or break their futures. The decisions involve getting a good education, choosing true friends, getting along with parents, dating and sex, avoiding addictions, and establishing a healthy sense of self-worth. Covey provides tips for making and following through on each of these areas and delivers concise sound bites of advice peppered with colorful graphics, cartoons, and movie quotes. He supports his arguments with facts, statistics, and analysis.

For example, in urging teens to stay in school and keep up their grades, he provides a chart of lifelong earnings based on the highest degree earned, as well as the money needed for a family. The author briefly addresses problems associated with the choices. For example, regarding school, he gives tips on dealing with stress, time management, learning disabilities, and preparing for college. He is frank in discussing sex and dating myths and the dangers of STDs and teenage pregnancy. This book covers typical self-help territory, but does so in a manner that teens will appreciate. Its downfall is its wide scope and the author's failure to cite most of his sources. However, the volume is not designed to be read straight through, and its quick and easy tips will appeal to most readers.

#### Review #2

Life is all about making choices. Learning to make the right choices is the essence of life. Here is a sensitively written book that every young person must read to gain the ability to make their lives worthy of pride and emulation. - M.K. Ghandi Institute for Nonviolence Review

#### **What alternate text(s) could also fulfill the instructional requirements?**

<u>Title:</u>	<b>The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens</b>	<u>Author:</u>	<b>Sean Covey</b>
<u>Title:</u>	<b>Success Express for Teens</b>	<u>Author:</u>	<b>Roger Leslie</b>
<u>Title:</u>		<u>Author:</u>	
<u>Title:</u>		<u>Author:</u>	
<u>Title:</u>		<u>Author:</u>	
<u>Title:</u>		<u>Author:</u>	

#### **Document any potentially controversial content:**

The content address the teen issues of school, friends, parents, dating and sex, addictions, and self-worth. The book is frank and to the point about key teen issues.

#### **Keeping in mind the age, academic level, and maturity of the intended reader, what is the suggested classroom use: (check all that apply)**

Gifted/Accelerated ☒ Regular ☒ At Risk ☐

**GRADE LEVEL(S):** 6☐ 7☒ 8☒ 9☒ 10☒ 11☐ 12☐

**Reading level of this title (if applicable):** Ages 12 and up

**Date Submitted to Department Chair:** 4/27/12

#### **Suggested Professional Literary Review Sources:**

School Library Journal

Horn Book

Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books

VOYA (Voice of Youth Advocates)

Library Journal

Book Links

Publisher's Weekly

Booklist

Kirkus Review

Wilson Library Catalog

English Journal (and other resources of the National Council of Teachers of English)

The Reading Teacher (International Reading Association)

Literature for Today's Young Adults