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Dear Families of Students Rising to Grades 6-8,

Summer is fast approaching, and that means so is summer reading! The middle school language arts teachers and librarians are delighted to announce that the summer reading book for ALL rising sixth, seventh and eighth grade students is:

Nine, Ten: A September 11th Story by Nora Raleigh Baskin

(following text from Atheneum Books for Young Readers)

“Ask anyone: September 11, 2001, was serene and lovely, a perfect day – until a plane struck the World Trade Center.

But right now it is a few days earlier, and four kids in different parts of the country are going about their lives. Sergio, who lives in Brooklyn, is struggling to come to terms with the absentee father he hates and the grandmother he loves. Will’s father is gone, too, killed in a car accident that has left the family reeling. Naheed has never before felt uncomfortable about being Muslim, but at her new school she’s getting funny looks because of the head scarf she wears. Aimee is starting a new school in a new city and missing her mom, who has to fly to New York on business.

These four don’t know one another, but their lives are about to intersect in ways they never could have imagined. Award-winning author Nora Raleigh Baskin weaves together their stories into an unforgettable novel about that seemingly perfect September day – the day our world changed forever.”

Nora Raleigh Baskin is the acclaimed author of many award-winning books for middle grade and young adult students, including *Ruby on the Outside*, *Runt* and *Anything But Typical*. Ms. Baskin will visit Columbus Academy on September 10-11, 2019, to talk about her books and to facilitate writing workshops with middle school students. This will be a special opportunity for students to meet and interact with this noted author.

All incoming middle school students must read *Nine, Ten: A September 11th Story* before arriving for classes in August. Students should come to school ready to discuss and write about the book.

Happy Summer Reading!

Middle School Librarians and Language Arts Department