



Read Around the Block 2014

Summer is approaching quickly and summer vacation provides opportunities to explore new places or re-connect with family and friends. Reading is a path to achieving these goals. Readers can travel to different times and places or visit familiar characters and plots by spending time with good books. Summer reading can help encourage a life-long love of reading as well as strengthen writing skills.

This summer, the entire secondary school at St. Benedict Prep will participate in our 3rd annual summer reading program: Read Around the Block. This program, based on a book group discussion model, culminates with a school-wide book discussion day when school begins in August.

2013 Read Around the Block Highlights

- Over 300 students, faculty and staff members participated
- 38 different titles were included - everything from *The Blind Side* to *The Help*, from *The Diary of Anne Frank* to *Chasing Lincoln's Killer*, from *The Hobbit* to *Catching Fire*
- 33 juniors and seniors volunteered as small group discussion leaders, which included training over the summer
- Groups of students from all grades in the secondary school met on August 27 in spaces around the block to discuss their books

In addition to reading one book over the summer, students write about an important element of the book to prepare for their discussion. The writing and the participation in the book discussion are both graded as the first assignment for English/Language Arts for the coming year. Students who will be enrolled in honors-level English classes in grades 9 - 12 will have additional summer reading.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Carrie MocarSKI, English/Language Arts Department Chair, at cmocarSKI@stbenedict.com.

