

## Four Rivers Charter Public School 2013 Summer Reading – Division 2

### Incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders must read:

*To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

### Incoming 10<sup>th</sup> graders must read one book from the list below

*A Walk in the Woods* by Bill Bryson

Returning to the U.S. after 20 years in England, Iowa native Bryson decided to reconnect with his mother country by hiking the length of the 2,100-mile Appalachian Trail. Awed by merely the camping section of his local sporting goods store, he nevertheless plunges into the wilderness and emerges with a consistently comical account of a neophyte woodsman learning hard lessons about self-reliance.

*Into the Wild* by Jon Krakauer

After graduating from Emory University in Atlanta in 1992, top student and athlete Christopher McCandless abandoned his possessions, gave his entire \$24,000 savings account to charity and hitchhiked to Alaska, where he went to live in the wilderness. Four months later, he turned up dead. His diary, letters and two notes found at a remote campsite tell of his desperate effort to survive, apparently stranded by an injury and slowly starving. *Into the Wild* sheds light on the forces that drive people to drop out of society and test themselves in other ways.

*Mountains Beyond Mountains* by Tracy Kidder

At the center of *Mountains Beyond Mountains* stands Paul Farmer: Doctor, Harvard professor, renowned infectious-disease specialist, anthropologist, recipient of a MacArthur "genius" grant, world-class Robin Hood. Farmer was brought up in a bus and on a boat, and in medical school found his life's calling, to diagnose and cure infectious diseases and to bring the lifesaving tools of modern medicine to those who need them most. This book shows how radical change can be fostered in situations that seem insurmountable.

*The Legacy of Luna: The Story of a Tree, a Woman and the Struggle to Save the Redwoods*  
By Julia Butterfly Hill

In December 1997, Hill who calls herself Julia Butterfly), 23, climbed 180 feet up a redwood tree she dubbed Luna to protest the logging of northern California's ancient redwood forests. She came down 738 days later. Now a hero of the environmental movement, Hill relives her ordeal in a dramatic first-person narrative revealing just how much she saw her protest as a spiritual quest.  
\*This is a great choice if you like books with action or struggle with reading

*Wandering Home: A Long Walk Across America's Most Hopeful Landscape: Vermont's Champlain Valley and New York's Adirondacks* by Bill McKibben

In this beautifully written book, climate change activist Bill McKibben details his hike from Vermont to New York. While traversing this landscape, he walks with local farmers, eco-businessmen, and environmental activists. Over the course of the journey, McKibben considers such far-reaching questions such as. "How can humans and nature interact?" and "What does it mean for a place to be truly wild?" This is a hopeful book that helps us understand humans' place in the natural world.