



LACEY TOWNSHIP MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Jason R. King
Principal

Mary Elizabeth Esch
Assistant Principal

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Dear Students and Parents:

The staff at Lacey Township Middle School believes that reading is an integral component to student academic success. Studies show that students who engage in reading activities on a regular basis improve their vocabulary acquisition skills, comprehension skills, and writing skills. Further studies have also demonstrated that students who do not continue to participate in reading activities during the summer months when school is not in session show a decline in skills when they return to school in September.

This year, the Lacey Township Middle School will be participating in an initiative called “One Grade, One Book.” “One Grade, One Book” is a reading program designed to promote reading throughout the community. All incoming 7th grade students have received a copy of Edward Bloor's award-winning novel, *Tangerine*. All students are asked to read the novel over summer break. Upon their return to school in September, ELA teachers will collect and discuss the novel in class.

Students will follow along with Paul, the twelve-year-old protagonist, as he begins a new life, in a new school, in a new town. Paul's new adventures expose the themes of family relationships and values, prejudice and discrimination, truth and integrity. *Tangerine* was the recipient of the New York Public Library 100 Titles for Reading and Sharing, ALA Best Book for Young Adults, and IRA Young Adults' Choice Awards.

We encourage all parents to participate in this program with your child.

Sincerely,

Mary Elizabeth Esch
Assistant Principal
ELA Supervisor