Lee County High School Reading List

1. **The Acorn People** - *Ron Jones*  
   A tender, true, and humorous story about a summer camp for handicapped children.

2. **The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn** - *Mark Twain*  
   A nineteenth-century boy from a Mississippi River town recounts his adventures as he travels down the river with a runaway slave, encountering a family involved in a feud, two scoundrels pretending to be royalty, and Tom Sawyer’s aunt who mistakes him for Tom.

3. **The Adventures of Tom Sawyer** - *Mark Twain*  
   An 1876 novel about a young boy growing up along the Mississippi River. It is set in the 1840s in the fictional town of St. Petersburg, inspired by Hannibal, Missouri, where Twain lived as a boy.

4. **Adventures of Ulysses** - *Bernard Evslin*  
   A marvelous retelling of Ulysses’ ten-year journey home.

5. **The Aguero Sisters** - *Christian William-Garica*  
   A lyrical story of family secrets and cultural boundaries. Reina and Constancia are sisters who reunite after thirty-year estrangement.

6. **Alas, Babylon** - *Pat Frank*  
   The next Pearl Harbor attack might be atomic. Pat Frank’s novel is about the end of the world...and the day after.

7. **All the Bright Places** - *Jennifer Niven*  
   When Finch and Violet meet on the ledge of the bell tower at school, it’s unclear who saves whom. And when they pair up on a project to discover the “natural wonders” of their state, both Finch and Violet make more important discoveries.

8. **All Quiet on the Western Front** - *Erich Maria Remarque*  
   A harrowing account of World War I as seen through the eyes of a German Soldier.

9. **Animal Farm** - *George Orwell*  
   A devastating, satirical attack on the avaricious rules in an imaginary totalitarian state.

10. **Antony and Cleopatra** - *William Shakespeare*  
    The plot is based on Thomas North's translation of Plutarch's *Lives* and follows the relationship between Cleopatra and Mark Antony from the time of the Sicilian revolt to Cleopatra's suicide during the Final War of the Roman Republic.

11. **Black Like Me** - *Howard Griffin*  
    A medically darkened white man’s record of his months traveling as a black man in the South.

12. **Bless Me, Ultima** - *Rudolfo Anaya*  
    *Bless Me, Ultima* focuses on a young boy's spiritual transformation amidst cultural and societal changes in the American Southwest during World War II.

13. **The Boy in the Striped Pajamas** - *John Boyne*  
    While exploring his new environment, Bruno meets another boy whose life and circumstances are very different from his own, and their meeting results in a friendship that has devastating consequences.

14. **The Body of Christopher Creed** - *Carol Plum-Ucci*  
    It tells the story of a high school student whose life becomes unraveled when he tries to solve the mystery of a classmate's sudden disappearance.
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15. **Brave New World**-Aldous Huxley  Classic fantasy of the future that sheds a blazing, critical light on the shortcomings of the present.

16. **Brian's Hunt**-Gary Paulsen  Now, while camping alone on a lake in the woods, he finds a wounded and whimpering dog. As Brian treats her wounds, he worries about who or what did this to her. His instincts tell him to head north, quickly, to check on his Cree friends. With his new companion at his side, he sets out on the hunt.

17. **Brian's Return**-Gary Paulsen  Gay Paulsen skillfully explores the meaning of belonging and purpose, and reminds us of a crucial rule of the wilderness: expect the unexpected.

18. **Brian's Winter**-Gary Paulsen  Gary Paulsen raises the stakes for survival in this riveting and inspiring story as one boy confronts the ultimate test and the ultimate adventure.

19. **Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee**-Dee Brown  The book expresses details of the history of American expansionism from a point of view that is critical of its effects on the Native Americans.

20. **Call of the Wild**-Jack London  The Call of the Wild is a short adventure novel by Jack London published in 1903 and set in Yukon, Canada during the 1890s Klondike Gold Rush, when strong sled dogs were in high demand.

21. **The Catcher in the Rye**-J.D. Salinger  The hero-narrator of THE CATCHER IN THE RYE is an ancient child of sixteen, a native New Yorker named Holden Caulfield. Through circumstances that tend to preclude adult, secondhand description, he leaves his prep school in Pennsylvania and goes underground in New York City for three days.

22. **Caught in the Act**-Joan Lowery Nixon  As the saga of the Kelly children continues, Mike Kelly is adopted by a German immigrant farm family living in Missouri. Although they are kind to him, they are mainly interested in having cheap labor.


24. **The Chosen**-Chaim Potok  The odyssey of two young men journeying from boyhood to manhood, set against the background of the conflicts and traditions of Hasidic and Orthodox Jews.

25. **A Christmas Carol**-Charles Dickens  A Christmas Carol tells the story of Ebenezer Scrooge, an old miser who is visited by the ghost of his former business partner Jacob Marley and the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Yet to Come.

26. **The Color Purple**-Alice Walker  Alice Walker's triumphant novel of a black woman's life in the south. *(Mature)*

27. **A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court**-Mark Twain  Satirical spoof about an American shop foreman who is transported back to sixth-century England.

28. **The Count of Monte Cristo**-Alexandre Dumas  Unjustly sentenced to life in prison, Edmund Dantes escapes determined to exact revenge from his enemies.

29. **The Crazy Horse Electric Game**-Chris Crutcher  Willie is a top athlete, the star of the legendary game against Crazy Horse Electric. Then a freak accident robs him of his once-amazing physical talents.
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31. **Death Be Not Proud**- *John Gunther*  Gunther’s moving story of his son’s courageous battle to overcome cancer.

32. **A Death in the Family**- *James Agee*  Agee’s great novel of a loving, close-knit family and the courage they display when tragedy suddenly changes their lives.

33. **The Devil’s Arithmetic**- *Jane Yolen*  Hanna a modern Jewish girl is transported to a 1942 Polish village, and only she knows of the Nazi horrors that await.

34. **Divergent**- *Veronica Roth*  The gripping story of a dystopian world transformed by courage, self-sacrifice, and love.

35. **Do Fish Drink Water**- *Bill McLain*  Is a surprising, funny, and informative collection of facts.

36. **Doctor Jekyll and Mr. Hyde**- *Robert Louis Stevenson*  It is about a London lawyer named Gabriel John Utterson who investigates strange occurrences between his old friend, Dr Henry Jekyll, and the evil Edward Hyde.

37. **Don Quixote**- *Miguel de Cervantes*  The unabridged saga of the fabulous knight and his simple squire and their adventures in medieval Spain.

38. **Dracula**- *Bram Stoker*  Famous Gothic horror story of courageous people who set out to destroy vampires.

39. **Dune**- *Frank Herbert*  First volume of the epic science fiction series about a desert world and the immense struggle for wealth and power that is played out there.

40. **The Education of Little Tree**- *Forrest Carter*  The story of a Cherokee Indian boy growing up in the Tennessee hills with his grandparents during the depression of the 1930’s.

41. **Ellen Foster**- *Kaye Gibbons*  In a simple narrative voice, eleven-year old Ellen tells the story of a childhood filled with family strife and parental loss.

42. **Emma**- *Jane Austen*  Classic novel about a self-assured young lady whose behavior is dictated by romantic fancy.

43. **Ender’s Game**- *Orson Scott Card*  Set at an unspecified date in Earth's future, the novel presents an imperiled mankind after two conflicts with the "buggers", an insectoid alien species. In preparation for an anticipated third invasion, children, including the novel’s protagonist, Ender Wiggin, are trained from a very young age through increasingly difficult games including some in zero gravity.

44. **Ethan Frome**- *Edith Wharton*  A tragic love story set in New England.

45. **Fading Leaves**- *Adline Yen Mah*  Story of the harsh realities of growing up female in twentieth-century China.
46. **Fahrenheit 451**-Ray Bradbury  
   The lead character is a fireman named Montag who becomes disillusioned with the role of censoring works and destroying knowledge, eventually quitting his job and joining a resistance group who memorize and share the world's greatest literary and cultural works.

47. **Fallen Angels**-Walter Dean Myers  
   A coming-of-age tale for young adults set in the trenches of the Vietnam War in the late 1960s, this is the story of Perry, a Harlem teenager who volunteers for the service when his dream of attending college falls through.

48. **A Family Apart**-Joan Lowery Nixon  
   The Kellys board an "orphan train" and are taken to St. Joseph, Missouri, where their problems only grow worse. It was bad enough that they had to say goodbye to their mother, but now they’re forced to part ways with their fellow siblings as well. Thirteen-year-old Frances won’t stand for it. She’s going to protect her brothers and sisters, even if it means dressing up like a boy and putting herself in danger.

49. **A Farewell to Arms**-Ernest Hemingway  
   A tale of love set on the Italian front during World War I.

50. **Flowers for Algernon**-Daniel Keyes  
   A medical experiment turns thirty-year-old Charlie Gordon into a genius creating implications for society.

51. **Frankenstein**-Mary Shelley  
   A genius rejected by society exacts his revenge through the monster he brings to life.

52. **Ghost of Spirit Bear**-Ben Mikaelsen  
   Life in the wilderness—exiled from civilization as a punishment for his violent behavior—had its own set of hurdles, but for fifteen-year-old Cole Matthews, it’s returning home and facing high school that he’s not sure he can handle.

53. **The Glass Menagerie**-Tennessee Williams  
   Drama of Amanda Wingfield who is clinging to another time and place.

54. **The Grapes of Wrath**-John Steinbeck  
   Powerful chronicle of dispossessed landowners who leave Oklahoma during the Great Depression and head for the “promised land” of California.

55. **Great Expectations**-Charles Dickens  
   Humble, orphaned Pip is apprenticed to the dirty work of the forge but dares to dream of becoming a gentleman — and one day, under sudden and enigmatic circumstances, he finds himself in possession of "great expectations." In this gripping tale of crime and guilt, revenge and reward.

56. **The Great Gatsby**-F. Scott Fitzgerald  
   Invited to an extravagantly lavish party in a Long Island mansion, Nick Carraway, a young bachelor who has just settled in the neighbouring cottage, is intrigued by the mysterious host, Jay Gatsby, a flamboyant but reserved self-made man with murky business interests and a shadowy past.

57. **The Greatest Thing Since Sliced Bread**-Don Robertson  
   On a quiet autumn afternoon in 1944, nine-year-old Morris Bird III decides to visit a friend who lives on the other side of town. So he grabs the handle of his red wagon and, with his little sister in tow, begins an incredible pilgrimage across Cleveland . . . and out of childhood forever.

58. **Hamlet**-William Shakespeare  
   Hamlet is a tragedy and revenge play by William Shakespeare. It is one of his best-known works, one of the most-quoted writings in the English language and is universally included on lists of the world’s greatest books.
59. **Hatchet-Gary Paulsen**  Thirteen-year-old Brian Robeson is on his way to visit his father when the single-engine plane in which he is flying crashes. Suddenly, Brian finds himself alone in the Canadian wilderness with nothing but a tattered Windbreaker and the hatchet his mother gave him as a present.

60. **Heart of Darkness-Joseph Conrad**  Story about the voyage up the Congo River in heart of Africa

61. **Hie to the Hunter-Jesse Stuart**  The Sparks family salty old Peg Sparks, his wife Arn, and their sixteen year old son Spakie lived in the Plum Grove Hills in a one room cabin. They don't have a lot, but they would not turn a stray hound dog away from their door and certainly not a stray boy like pale, spindly Didway Hargis, who has run away from his wealthy home in town.


63. **The Hobbit-JRR Tolkien**  In a world of fantasy called Middle Earth populated by small creatures known as Hobbits, Bilbo Baggins begins an amazing adventure.

64. **How Angel Peterson Got His Name-Gary Paulsen**  When you grow up in a small town in the north woods, you have to make your own excitement. High spirits, idiocy, and showing off for the girls inspire Gary Paulsen and his friends.

65. **The Illustrated Man-Ray Bradbury**  Eighteen tales involving time and space

66. **I Am Legend-Richard Matheson**  Robert Neville has witnessed the end of the world. The entire population has been obliterated by a vampire virus. Somehow, Neville survived. He must now struggle to make sense of everything.

67. **I Am Number Four-Pittacus Lore**  Nine Loric children were sent to Earth to live in hiding until they grew up and developed their Legacies, powers that would help them fight back—and help them save us. Three of them are now dead. John is Number Four, and he knows he’s next

68. **I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings-Maya Angelou**  The book captures the longing of lonely children, the brute insult of bigotry, and the wonder of words that can make the world right.

69. **In Search of Mother's Gardens-Alice Walker**  In this, her first collection of nonfiction, Alice Walker speaks out as a black woman, writer, mother, and feminist in thirty-six pieces ranging from the personal to the political.

70. **Inherit the Wind-Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee**  Dramatization of the famous Monkey Trial in Tennessee in 1925, when Clarence Darrow put Darwinism on trial.

71. **Into Thin Air-Jon Krakauer**  The story of experienced mountain guides and novice climbers in a raging blizzard atop Mt. Everest in 1996.

72. **Invisible Man-Ralph Ellison**  Strage, gripping saga of a black man who struggles from the South to the North, always encountering other people’s preconceived notions about him.

73. **Jane Eyre-Charlotte Bronte**  The searching portrayal of a passionate mid-nineteenth-century woman. A Gothic Romance

74. **Johnny Got His Gun-Dalton Trumbo**  This underground classic about the horrors of World War II.
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75. **Little Women** by Louisa May Alcott  Although Father March is away with the Union armies, the sisters Meg, Jo, Amy and Beth keep in high spirits with their mother, affectionately named Marmee.

76. **Lord of the Flies** by William Golding  The book focuses on a group of British boys stranded on an uninhabited island and their disastrous attempt to govern themselves.

77. **Lord of the Rings** by J.R.R. Tolkien  The story began as a sequel to Tolkien's 1937 fantasy novel *The Hobbit*, but eventually developed into a much larger work.

78. **The Martian Chronicles** by Ray Bradbury  These stories of Earth and Mars illustrate the universal forces of love, hate, fear, and courage.

79. **Midsummer Night's Dream** by William Shakespeare  A Midsummer Night's Dream is a comedy written by William Shakespeare in 1595/96. It portrays the events surrounding the marriage of Theseus, the Duke of Athens, to Hippolyta, the former queen of the Amazons.

80. **The Miracle Worker** by William Gibson  Annie Sullivan's struggle to release the young Helen Keller from the awful prison of eternal silence and darkness.

81. **Monster** by Walter Dean Myer  Young, black, 16-year-old Steve Harmon, an amateur film maker is on trial for the murder of a Harlem drug store owner.

82. **My Antonia** by Willa Cather  Willa Cather portrays pioneer Nebraska life in one of the best loved classics of American fiction.

83. **Navio Boy** by Gary Soto  Ninth grader Rudy has a date with eleventh grader Patricia. Now he has to come up with the money, the poise, and the conversation to carry it off.

84. **Nectar In a Sieve** by Kamala Markandaya  Very moving story of a peasant woman in a primitive village in India whose whole life was a gallant and persistent battle to care for those she loved.

85. **Never Cry Wolf** by Farley Mowat  Amazing True Story of Life Among Arctic Wolves.

86. **Of Mice and Men** by John Steinbeck  tells the story of George Milton and Lennie Small, two displaced migrant ranch workers, who move from place to place in California in search of new job opportunities during the Great Depression in the United States.

87. **The Old Man and The Sea** by Ernest Hemingway  The Old Man and the Sea tells the story of a battle between an aging, experienced fisherman, Santiago, and a large marlin.

88. **The Once and Future King** by T.H. White  Classic novel about King Arthur and his knights.

89. **One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest** by Ken Kesey

90. **The Other Side of Dark** by Joan Lowery Nixon  Stacy wakes up in a room that's not hers, in a body she doesn't recognize, to discover she's been in a coma for four years. Her mother is dead-murdered-and Stacy, recovering from a gunshot wound, is the only eyewitness.

91. **Our Town** by Thornton Wilder  Tells the story of the fictional American small town of Grover's Corners between 1901 and 1913 through the everyday lives of its citizens.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Summary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>92</td>
<td>The Outsiders</td>
<td>S.E. Hinton</td>
<td>The book details the conflict between two rival gangs divided by their socioeconomic status: the working-class &quot;greasers&quot; and the upper-class &quot;Socs.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93</td>
<td>The Perfect Storm</td>
<td>Sebastian Junger</td>
<td>Readers follow a Gloucester, Massachusetts fishing boat as the fishermen battle for survival against high seas and overwhelming odds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>94</td>
<td>Pride and Prejudice</td>
<td>Jane Austen</td>
<td>A superb comedy of manners, detailing the romantic clash between an opinionated woman and her proud beau.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95</td>
<td>The Prince</td>
<td>Niccolo Machiavelli</td>
<td>An extended analysis on how to acquire and maintain power.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>Rebecca</td>
<td>Daphne du Maurier</td>
<td>A classic novel of mystery and romance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>97</td>
<td>The Return of the Native</td>
<td>Thomas Hardy</td>
<td>The Return of the Native is a powerful story that illustrates the tragic potential of romantic illusion and how its protagonists fail to recognize their opportunities to control their own destinies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>98</td>
<td>The River</td>
<td>Gary Paulsen</td>
<td>Two years after Brian Robeson survived fifty-four days alone in the Canadian wilderness, the government wants him to head back so they can learn what he did to stay alive.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry</td>
<td>Taylor D. Mildred</td>
<td>It takes the events of one turbulent year—the year of the night riders and the burnings, the year a white girl humiliates Cassie in public imply because she is black-to show Cassie that having a place of their own is the Logan family's lifeblood.</td>
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<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>Rumble Fish</td>
<td>S.E. Hinton</td>
<td>The brothers (Motorcycle Boy and Rusty James) are inseparable, and Motorcycle Boy will always be there to watch Rusty’s back. Or so Rusty James believes, until his world falls apart and Motorcycle Boy isn't there to pick up the pieces.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101</td>
<td>The Scarlet Letter</td>
<td>Nathaniel Hawthorne</td>
<td>Set in 17th-century Puritan Massachusetts Bay Colony, during the years 1642 to 1649, it tells the story of Hester Prynne, who conceives a daughter through an affair and struggles to create a new life of repentance and dignity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>102</td>
<td>The Secret Garden</td>
<td>Frances Hodgson Burnett</td>
<td>The orphaned Mary Lennox is sullen, ill tempered, and unloved when she’s sent to live with her uncle, Archibald Craven.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>103</td>
<td>Sense and Sensibility</td>
<td>Jane Austen</td>
<td>Two high-spirited sisters search for true love in a straitlaced society.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>104</td>
<td>A Separate Peace</td>
<td>John Knowles</td>
<td>Two young prep school roommates learn to cope with the emotions of adulthood when one of them is stuck down by a crippling accident.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>105</td>
<td>Snow Falling on Cedars</td>
<td>David Guterson</td>
<td>A Japanese American is on trial for the murder of local fisherman that drowns mysteriously on the beaches of San Pedro in Puget Sound.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>106</td>
<td>Stuck in Neutral</td>
<td>Terry Trueman</td>
<td>Shawn McDaniel is glued to his wheelchair, unable to voluntarily move or speak, and he thinks his dad is trying to kill him to end his suffering.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>107</td>
<td>Swallowing Stones</td>
<td>Joyce McDonald</td>
<td>When Michael fires his new rifle into the air on his seventeenth birthday, he never imagines that the bullet will end up killing someone. But it does—and Michael’s world is changed forever. Desperate, he wrestles with his guilt and keeps silent as his life begins to fall apart.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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108. **The Sword in the Stone**- T.H. White  
The story of the boyhood King Arthur: a blend of fact and fantasy

109. **Tess of the D’Urbervilles**- Thomas Hardy  
The tragic tale of the seduction of a beautiful and innocent peasant girl

110. **The Theban Plays of Sophocles**  
King Oedipus, Colonus, and Antigone

111. **There Will Come a Time**- Carrie Arcos  
Mark grapples with the loss of his twin sister in this heart-wrenching novel of grief and resilience from National Book Award finalist Carrie Arcos.

112. **They Poured Fire On Us from the Sky**- Benjamin Ajak and Benson Deng  
It's the autobiographical story of brothers Benson Deng and Alephonsion Deng, and their cousin Benjamin Ajak. It describes their ordeal during the Second Sudanese Civil War as they flee as refugees across Sudan, Ethiopia, and Kenya before they make it to a refugee camp in Kenya.

113. **Thirteen Reasons Why**- Jay Asher  
Clay Jensen returns home from school to find a strange package with his name on it lying on his porch. Inside he discovers several cassette tapes recorded by Hannah Baker—his classmate and crush—who committed suicide two weeks earlier. Hannah's voice tells him that there are thirteen reasons why she decided to end her life

114. **The Time Machine**- H.G. Wells  
A Time Traveler is transported into the distant future and learns a devastating truth about humanity

115. **Touching Spirit Bear**- Ben Mikaelsen  
After severely injuring Peter Driscal in an empty parking lot, mischief-maker Cole Matthews is in major trouble. But instead of jail time, Cole is given another option: attend Circle Justice, an alternative program that sends juvenile offenders to a remote Alaskan Island to focus on changing their ways.

116. **Tuesdays With Morrie**- Mitch Albom  
*Tuesdays with Morrie* is a magical chronicle of their time together, through which Mitch shares Morrie's last gift with the world.

117. **The Turn of the Screw**- Henry James  
Widely recognized as one of literature’s most gripping ghost stories, this classic tale of moral degradation concerns the sinister transformation of two innocent children into flagrant liars and hypocrites.

118. **Uncle Tom’s Cabin**- Harriet Beecher Stowe  
1852 Novel of slavery that poses the question: “What is it to be a moral human being?”

119. **Walden**- Henry David Thoreau  
Thoreau’s detailed recording of his year in a shack beside Walden Pond

120. **The War of the Worlds**- H.G. Wells  
It is one of the earliest stories that detail a conflict between mankind and an extraterrestrial race.

121. **Watership Down**- Richard Adams  
Bestselling picturesque saga of a maverick band of rabbits who, against all odds, seek a new home and a better society

122. **Woman Warrior: Memoirs of a Girlhood Among Ghosts**- Maxine Hong Kingston  
Vivid and poetic account of what it was like to grow up in California as the daughter of a traditional Chinese family that found women inferior to men and considered all non-Chinese “ghosts”
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123. **Wonder - R.J. Palacio**  August Pullman was born with a facial difference that, up until now, has prevented him from going to a mainstream school. Starting 5th grade at Beecher Prep, he wants nothing more than to be treated as an ordinary kid.

124. **A Wrinkle in Time - Madeleine L’Engle**  It was a dark and stormy night; Meg Murry, her small brother Charles Wallace, and her mother had come down to the kitchen for a midnight snack when they were upset by the arrival of a most disturbing stranger.

125. **Wuthering Heights - Emily Bronte**  A savage, tormented orphan boy falls wildly in love with the daughter of his benefactor.

126. **1984 - George Orwell**  A chilling, prophetic vision of totalitarian “future” which, in many respects, has come to pass.

127. **20,000 Leagues Under the Sea - Jules Verne**  It tells the story of Captain Nemo and his submarine Nautilus as seen from the perspective of Professor Pierre Aronnax.