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**Radical Readers Program**

**Rationale:** Reading for pleasure is one of the most sacred and cherished activities for people of all ages. Students can gain so much from getting lost in a good book and escaping to another world, even if it is for a few minutes. With the new standards that have emerged, this vital activity is not as highly emphasized, therefore it is up to us to foster their love for reading and their desire to choose what they want to read. The program that I am proposing will motivate students to read for pleasure and promote them to read as much as they can. We can’t let students forget to read for fun, and I believe this program will emphasis the value of that belief.

**What will**

**they do?** The program Radical Readers is sponsored by the MSEA and the Read Across Maryland Program. From March 1st-March 31st students in grades 6-8 will read books of their choice and record the minutes they spend reading them, in a reading log that will be provided for them. Students are supposed to read a total of 30 minutes every day for 30 days, however they should be encouraged to read any amount of time whether it is 10 minutes or an hour, since the goal is for them to read as much as they can. They will need to record the book title, the minutes they read that day, and have a parent sign-off on it.

**What is the**

**incentive?** Students who complete the program will be given a raffle ticket that will be entered to win 1 of 5 $10 iTunes gift cards. Students who complete the program will also have their completed reading log sent in to the Read Across Maryland Program and will be entered to win 1 of 4 Kindle Fires or 1 of 4 $25 Amazon gift cards.

 All of the English classes in each grade will compete against each other to have the highest total number of minutes read. The English class in each grade that has the highest number of minutes read, will get extra recess during an advisory period.

 Two students in each English class that has the highest total number of minutes read, will be entered into a raffle to win an iPad mini.

**Who will**

**participate?** All of the students in the school will be encouraged to participate

**When will**

**it take place?** The program will begin on March 1st and conclude on March 31st