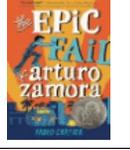
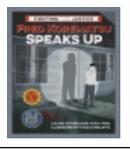
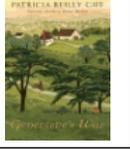
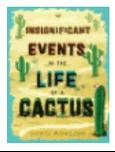
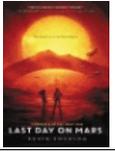
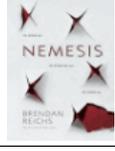
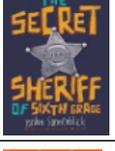
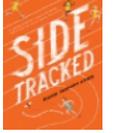


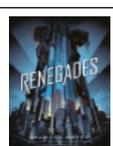
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SC Junior Book Award Nominees 2019-2020	Book Summary	
<i>All's Faire in Middle School</i> by Victoria Jamieson (Graphic Novel, GN460)	Eleven-year-old Imogene (Impy) has grown up with two parents working at the Renaissance Faire and is eager to begin her own training as a squire, but first she'll need to prove her bravery while navigating the embarrassments caused by her eccentric family and outmaneuvering a clique of spiteful mean girls.	
<i>Beyond the Bright Sea</i> by Lauren Wolk (Historical Fiction, 770L)	Crow has lived her entire life on a tiny piece of the starkly beautiful Elizabeth Islands off the coast of Massachusetts. Her only companions are Osh, the man who rescued her from a tiny skiff as an infant and raised her, and Miss Maggie, their neighbor across the sandbar. But it isn't until the night when a mysterious fire appears across the water that an unspoken question of her own history forms in her heart and an unstoppable chain of events is triggered. Using her bravery and perseverance, Crow must follow clues that not only lead to a personal treasure, but to uncovering her lost identity and, ultimately, understanding what it means to be a family.	
<i>The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora</i> by Pablo Cartaya (Realistic Fiction, 750L)	Tells the story of Arturo, who is looking forward to a relaxing summer until Carmen, a cute and funny girl moves into his apartment complex and while he deals with his stomach turning into a deep fryer over a girl, a smarmy land developer rolls into town and threatens to change it.	
<i>The First Rule of Punk</i> by Celia C. Pérez (Realistic Fiction, 670)	Twelve-year-old María Luisa O'Neill-Morales (who really prefers to be called Malú) reluctantly moves with her Mexican-American mother to Chicago and starts seventh grade with a bang--violating the dress code with her punk rock aesthetic and spurning the middle school's most popular girl in favor of starting a band with a group of like-minded weirdos.	
<i>Fred Korematsu Speaks Up</i> by Laura Atkins and Stan Yogi (Non-Fiction)	Fred Korematsu is a young Japanese American, born in California in 1919. This true story is told from Fred's point of view and covers his life following the bombing of Pearl Harbor when, because of their race, many Americans were forced into camps. Fred chooses to fight to protect his civil rights but is placed in jail.	
<i>Genevieve's War</i> by Patricia Reilly Giff (Historical Fiction)	Thirteen-year-old Genevieve impulsively decides not to return to New York at the end of the summer of 1939 spent in Alsace with her stern grandmother, but when the Nazis reclaim the area and even move into the farmhouse, life becomes dangerous and loyalties are tested.	
<i>Greetings from Witness Protection!</i> By Jake Burt (Realistic Fiction, 750L)	Thirteen-year-old Nikki Demere is an orphan and a kleptomaniac, making her the perfect girl to portray the Trevors' daughter in witness protection, but she soon learns that the biggest threat to her new family's security comes from her own past.	
<i>Halfway Normal</i> by Barbara Dee (Realistic Fiction, 620L)	Twelve-year-old Norah was out of school for two years while she received treatment for childhood leukemia . Now that she's in remission, it's time for things to get back to normal. And for Norah, that means returning to school, MIDDLE school!	
<i>Hear the Wolves</i> by Victoria Scott (Realistic Fiction, 740L)	Sloan Riley is a skilled hunter, but since her mother left, and she lost hearing in one ear, she has clung to her father and older sister, so waking up and discovering they have left her for a few days terrifies her--but when an autumn blizzard threatens to bury her small Alaskan town, and the wolves begin to hunt, she must find her courage if she is to get herself and the few remaining citizens to safety beyond the forest.	

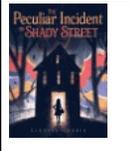
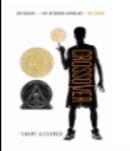
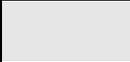
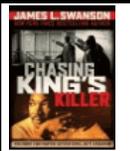
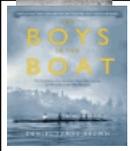
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<p><i>In Some Other Life: a novel</i> by Jessica Brody (Realistic Fiction, HL640)</p>	<p>High school Junior Kennedy Rhodes has spent three years wondering if she made the right decision when she chose to attend public school rather than the elite private school where she was accepted. As a result of a freak accident, she wakes up in a life where she attends the private school. She finally gets to find out if she made the right decision.</p>	
<p><i>Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus</i> by Dusti Bowling (Mystery, 700L)</p>	<p>New friends and a mystery help Aden, thirteen, adjust to middle school and life at a dying western theme park in a new state, where her being born armless presents many challenges.</p>	
<p><i>Last Day on Mars: Chronicle of the Dark Star</i> by Kevin Emerson (Science Fiction, 810L)</p>	<p>While waiting to leave Mars before it burns up just like the Earth before it, Liam and his friend Phoebe discover some facts about time and space and realize that the human race is just one of the races trying to survive in space.</p>	
<p><i>Miles Morales: Spider Man</i> by Jason Reynolds (Science Fiction, HL710)</p>	<p>Miles Morales already has problems. He doesn't fit in at his almost all-white prep school, and he doesn't fit in his neighborhood anymore either. But when he is bitten by a radioactive spider at his uncle's apartment, both his problems and his options expand. Now he is constantly plagued by his Spidey senses at school, telling him something isn't right.</p>	
<p><i>Nemesis</i> by Brendan Reichs (Science Fiction, HL540)</p>	<p>Brooklyn Visions Academy student Miles Morales may not always want to be a super hero, but he must come to terms with his identity--and deal with a villainous teacher--as the new Spider Man.</p>	
<p><i>Restart</i> by Gordon Korman (Realistic Fiction, 730L)</p>	<p>Chase does not remember falling off the roof, in fact he does not remember anything about himself, and when he gets back to middle school he begins to learn who he was through the reactions of the other kids--trouble is, he really is not sure he likes the Chase that is being revealed, but can he take the opportunity amnesia has provided and restart his life?</p>	
<p><i>Saving Marty</i> by Paul Griffin (Realistic Fiction, 650L)</p>	<p>Eleven year old Lorenzo lives on a failing farm with his mom and grandfather, and he spends his summer playing guitar with his best friend Pal and bonding with a piglet he names Marty. But when Pal leaves for music camp, Lorenzo learns a hard truth about his late war-hero father and at the same time, he must find a way to save Marty from being sold.</p>	
<p><i>The Secret Sheriff of Sixth Grade</i> by Jordan Sonnenblick (Realistic Fiction, 760L)</p>	<p>Maverick Falconer is just starting middle school and he wishes he were a hero like his father because maybe then he could deal with his mother's drinking and series of abusive boyfriends, not to mention the kids who bully him in middle school (pretty much the same ones who bullied him in elementary school)--but as the year passes he begins to realize that other kids have problems too, and maybe if they can all survive sixth-grade things will get better.</p>	
<p><i>Sidetracked</i> by Diana Harmon Asher (Sports, 690L)</p>	<p>Seventh grade Joseph Friedman just wants to avoid the school bully, Charlie Kastner. But when you're friendless, weak and have ADD, that can be pretty difficult. So when his resource room, the place where he can feel safe, Mrs. T practically forces him to join track and field, where he makes friends, and finally finds his place.</p>	

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<p><i>The Truth as Told by Mason Buttle</i> by Leslie Connor (Mystery, 310L)</p>	<p>Mason Buttle is the biggest, sweatiest kid in his grade, and everyone knows he can barely read or write. Mason’s learning disabilities are compounded by grief. Fifteen months ago, Mason’s best friend, Benny Kilmartin, turned up dead in the Buttle family’s orchard. An investigation drags on, and Mason, honest as the day is long, can’t understand why Lieutenant Baird won’t believe the story Mason has told about that day. Both Mason and his new friend, tiny Calvin Chumsky, are relentlessly bullied by the other boys in their neighborhood, so they create an underground club space for themselves. When Calvin goes missing, Mason finds himself in trouble again. He’s desperate to figure out what happened to Calvin, and eventually, Benny. But will anyone believe him?</p>	
<p><i>Wild Bird</i> by Wendelin Van Draanan (Realistic Fiction, HL680)</p>	<p>When her behavior escalates out of control, fourteen-year-old Wren is taken away to a wilderness therapy camp where she is forced to develop new skills, including the courage to ask for help.</p>	
<p><b>Titles Nominated for Other State Awards in 2019-2020</b></p>	<p><b>Book Summary</b></p>	
<p><i>Scar Island</i> by Dan Gemeinhart (Adventure/Survival, 610L)</p>	<p>Twelve-year-old Jonathan Grisby has been sent to the Slabhenge Reformatory School for Troubled Boys, a former lunatic asylum which is currently run by a sadist who enjoys punishing the boys and setting them against each other; but when a lightning strike kills all the adults the boys find themselves suddenly free--and trapped on Scar Island which seems to be sinking into the ocean.</p>	
<p><i>Windfall</i> by Jennifer E. Smith (Romance, 760L)</p>	<p>Alice doesn't believe in luck--at least, not the good kind. But she does believe in love, and for some time now, she's been pining for her best friend, Teddy. On his eighteenth birthday--just when it seems they might be on the brink of something--she buys him a lottery ticket on a lark. To their astonishment, he wins \$140 million, and in an instant, everything changes. At first, it seems like a dream come true, especially since the two of them are no strangers to misfortune... But now, as they negotiate the ripple effects of Teddy's newfound wealth, a gulf opens between them. And soon, the money starts to feel like more of a curse than a windfall.</p>	
<p><i>The Stars Beneath Our Feet</i> by David Barclay Moore (Realistic Fiction, 650L)</p>	<p>A boy tries to steer a safe path through the projects in Harlem in the wake of his brother's death.</p>	
<p><i>The Shadow Cipher</i> by Laura Ruby (Adventure/Survival, HL780)</p>	<p>Twins Tess and Theo live in one of the only remaining buildings designed by the Morningstarrs, visionary twins who built glittering structures in nineteenth-century New York, as well as the Cipher, a notorious, citywide puzzle leading to fantastic treasure. Now, in the twenty-first century, Tess and Theo's building has been purchased by a mercenary developer, but Tess grasps at a shred of hope: if they solve the Cipher, they might be able to keep their home.</p>	
<p><i>Renegades</i> by Marissa Meyer (Fantasy, 860L)</p>	<p>The Renegades are human, but with extraordinary abilities. They emerged from the ruins of a crumbled society and established peace and order where chaos reigned. As champions of justice, they remain a symbol of hope and courage to everyone... except the villains they once overthrew. Nova has a reason to hate the Renegades, and is on a mission for vengeance. Adrian is a Renegade boy who believes in justice-- and in Nova. But Nova's allegiance is to a villain who has the power to end them both.</p>	
<p><i>Refugee</i> by Alan Gratz (Historical Fiction, 800L)</p>	<p>Although separated by continents and decades, Josef, a Jewish boy living in 1930s Nazi Germany; Isabel, a Cuban girl trying to escape the riots and unrest plaguing her country in 1994; and Mahmoud, a Syrian boy in 2015 whose homeland is torn apart by violence and destruction, embark on harrowing journeys in search of refuge, discovering shocking connections that tie their stories together.</p>	

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<p><i>The Peculiar Incident on Shady Street</i> by Lindsay Currie (Mystery, 620L)</p>	<p>When lights start flickering and temperatures suddenly drop, twelve-year-old Tessa Woodward, sensing her new house may be haunted, recruits some new friends to help her unravel the mystery of who or what is trying to communicate with her and why.</p>	
<p><i>Exo</i> by Fonda Lee (Science Fiction, 870L)</p>	<p>For a century now, Earth has been a peaceful colony of an alien race, and Donovan Reyes is a loyal member of the security forces, while his father is the Prime Liaison--but when a routine search and seizure goes bad Donovan finds himself a captive of the human revolutionary group, Sapience, terrorists who seem to prefer war to alien rule, and killing Donovan just might be the incident they are looking for.</p>	
<p><i>Merci Suárez Changes Gears</i>, by Meg Medina (Realistic Fiction, 800L)</p>	<p>Merci Suâarez begins the sixth grade and knows things will change, but she did not count on her grandfather acting strangely, not fitting in at her private school, and dealing with Edna Santos' jealousy.</p>	
<p><i>The Crossover</i> by Kwame Alexander (Sports, 750L)</p>	<p>Fourteen-year-old twin basketball stars Josh and Jordan wrestle with highs and lows on and off the court as their father ignores his declining health.</p>	
<p><i>As Brave as You</i> by Jason Reynolds (Realistic Fiction, 750L)</p>	<p>When Genie and his older brother spend their summer in the country with their grandparents, he learns a secret about his grandfather and what it means to be brave.</p>	
<p><b>Non-Fiction Narratives</b></p>	<p><b>Book Summary</b></p>	
<p><i>Chasing King's Killer</i> by James L. Swanson (1010L)</p>	<p>James Earl Ray and Martin Luther King, Jr. had two very different life journeys -- but their paths fatally collide when Ray assassinates the world-renown civil rights leader. This book provides an inside look into both of their lives, the history of the time, and a blow-by-blow examination of the assassination and its aftermath.</p>	
<p><i>The Boys in the Boat (Young Reader's Adaptation)</i> by Daniel James Brown (1000L)</p>	<p>Out of the depths of the Great Depression comes the astonishing tale of nine working-class boys from the American West who at the 1936 Olympics showed the world what true grit really meant. With rowers who were the sons of loggers, shipyard workers, and farmers, the University of Washington's eight-oar crew was never expected to defeat the elite East Coast teams, yet they did, going on to shock the world by challenging the German boat rowing for Adolf Hitler.</p>	
<p><i>Terrible Typhoid Mary: A True Story of the Deadliest Cook in America</i> by Susan Campbell Bartoletti (980L)</p>	<p>Tells the story of early-twentieth-century Irish-American cook Mary Mallon, who was immortalized as "Typhoid Mary" after a sanitary engineer traced a 1904 typhoid fever outbreak back to her Long Island kitchen.</p>	