Reading Strategy
“I.I.R.L.L.”
Specifically for understanding quotes
I identify where the difficulty is:

I do not understand the first paragraph on page 42.

I identify what the difficulty is:

“This does not always work, but Leah seems to stay out of anything that might happen to these two.”

Restate the difficult sentence in your own words:

Since this is an everyday occurrence for these students to have, they don’t realize that it could actually be someone harmful walking in the hallway. Leah knows these two boys, but hasn’t talked to them in awhile. When she hears the security guard yelling at them, she decides to let the teacher take her arm and tell her to get inside the classroom.

Look back through the text:

“I realize that these two men may not go to our school. Just as I am about to ask them who their teacher is, a hall guard comes down the hall walking fast.”
Look forward in the text for information that might help to resolve the difficulty:

“I sit besides her as she slumps on the couch in the back of the room.”

http://www.readingrockets.org
www.ascd.org
This reading strategy can help you better understand what you are reading and pick apart areas to be restated in order to better understand it. Using key words is a big part of this strategy and using your content material to comprehend information that doesn’t just pop out.

State what section of the book you don’t understand. Preferably a few sentences or a paragraph.

I did not understand that this girl who goes to school in a very diverse setting was so use to seeing and having guys in her school that weren’t suppose to be there, because she couldn’t pick out who they were. She thought it was just normal, even though when this happens you have to go into lock down at most schools.

What exactly are you stuck on / confused about

It doesn’t always work for this teacher to pull her away and tell her to go and sit down when she wants to go and talk to these guys who look friendly. But this time
she didn’t fuss because she notices that something might be up and wants to stay out of it.

R Try and put it in your own words and look for the answer that could be looking ahead or behind in the text.

I didn’t realize that these students didn’t actually go to the school until its says “You tow gotta leave now!”

L Where was it that helped you figure out what it means when you looked back in the text

“Hey, man, what you doin’ here?” This is the conversation between Leah and the guy down the hall. You can infer that she knows him and maybe went to school with him.

L Where was it that helped you figure out what it means when looked forward in the text.

“I sit besides her as she slumps on the couch in the back of the room.” Leah usually would freak out at her teacher for not letting her talk to her friends, but since she hasn’t seen these guys in a while and she hears the security guard yelling at them, she knows that they are up to no good.