

Parents:

Thank you for your child's interest in the West University Elementary's Name That Book Club for 3rd through 5th grades.

The Name That Book contest, coordinated by the HISD Department of Library Services, serves to acquaint HISD students with classic literature and contemporary award-winning books that represent a variety of genres. The district-wide competition will be held in February, the exact dates are to be determined. To be on our school's team, the children will need to have read the 25 books from the HISD list, and be able to recognize quotes from them. The team consists of 6 students and 1 alternate. The Name That Book list is made up of the 20 Bluebonnet books for this year, as well as 5 other books recommended by librarians throughout HISD. The reading schedule has been organized so that all of the Bluebonnet books will be complete by the time the signed Bluebonnet reading logs are due in January.

While a successful outcome at competition is our overall goal, our first priority is to help motivate kids to read while instilling a love for books. We know all too well that too much "competition prep" will kill their enthusiasm. We will spend a little time on preparation each week. On Tuesdays, we will sit down with the children and discuss the book(s) assigned for that week. **It is imperative that students come having already read the books that will be discussed that week and have at least 5 quotes from each book we will be discussing.** These quotes can be hand written or typed. Quotes should not include proper nouns and be no longer than 1-2 sentences. The quote should give the reader a clue as to which book it came from.

Club time will be on Tuesdays, immediately after school and **will dismiss on Goode Street, at 3:40pm.** Please do not be late. **After two late pickups, your child will no longer be allowed to attend NTB meetings.** Should your child go on to be on the competition team, additional meetings will be added on Thursdays, beginning in January.

Discussing the books allows the children the opportunity to more deeply understand the books. It also allows them to work at expressing themselves verbally. This practice of discussing in a small group helps to prepare them for the team. It is critical that they be comfortable in this small group environment by the time the competition rolls around.

The reading schedule is aggressive, so please try to keep your child at least two weeks ahead of the discussion schedule. Hopefully this will spare them on the weeks when the homework load kicks up.

Finding copies of the books on this list can be a challenge. Both the Harris County Public Library and the Houston Public Library have great online request systems. We have copies of the titles in the school library, but we do not have enough for everyone. There is a set of the picture books that will remain in the library at all times – these books our club members can "borrow" while they are in the library, and read them during their library time or during after school library hours. Otherwise, the website amazon.com has been suggested for better prices, if you would prefer to own copies of the books.

As your children work through the list, please keep in mind that the list was set by HISD for children in the 3rd through 6th grades – some of the subject matter may be intense or difficult to understand for the younger readers in our club, and they may need some one-on-one assistance from you, to be sure that they are understanding the material assigned.

If you have any questions, or concerns, please feel free to contact me by email mary.simmons@houstonisg.org. Thank you for your time! Our head parent volunteer this year is Aaryn Silva. You can contact her by email aarynsilva@sbcglobal.net

Lauren Simmons, WUES Librarian

What to Include in Your NTB Binder (Optional)

- A complete list of the Name that Book Club books. Use this as a check list so you can quickly see which books you have read and still need to read.
- A section for each book.
 - In these sections, record the following information while you read: type (picture book or chapter book), point of view (first, second, or third person), themes, setting, main characters, character traits, genre
 - Favorite quotes
 - Unique words/vocabulary

Tryouts will be held in December and will only cover quotes from the bluebonnet nominees.

Ways to Study

- Write your own quotes
- Audio books, if audio isn't available create your own
- Create physical clues
- Create audio clues
- Watch book trailers
- AR quizzes (take all of them)
- Work with a buddy, read aloud with each other and quiz each other

Name of Book: _____

Genre: _____

Point of view: _____

Setting: _____

Themes: _____

Unique Vocabulary: _____

Main characters: _____

Character traits for main characters and why they describe them:

Quotes:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.