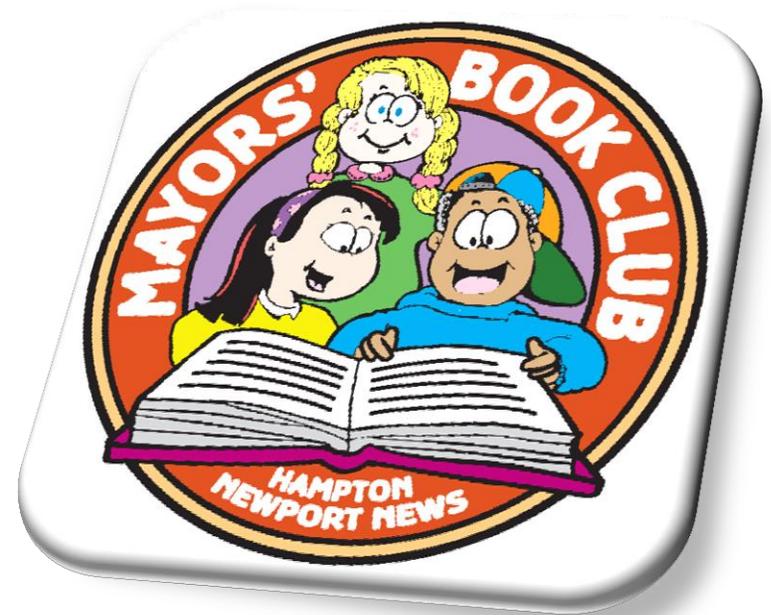


WANT YOUR KIWANIS CLUB TO PROVIDE A CAPTIVATING
LEARNING EXPERIENCE FOR CHILDREN WHILE INSPIRING
A LIFELONG APPRECIATION OF BOOKS AND READING?



Kiwanis[®]

compiled by JACQUELIN WADE

KIWANIS CLUB OF DOWNTOWN HAMPTON

MAYORSBOOKCLUBOFNEWPORTNEWS@GMAIL.COM

(757) 224-3727

WHAT IS A MAYOR'S BOOK CLUB?

A program to promote language development by building literacy skills among pre-school & early childhood aged children. Developing a better understanding of language by understanding story content.

- Launched in October, 2011.
- Provides 11,000 books each year.
- More than 5,000 children served.
- Readings in 215+ Classrooms
- Over 1700 volunteer hours.



WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF A MAYOR'S BOOK CLUB?

Developing an early appreciation of reading and reading skills are critical readiness skills to matriculate school successfully.

Increase the student's ability to meet the rigors of every day school life.

"When the Mayor, Senators, bankers, or the custodian reads, it tells the children everyone needs to read"

*.....Sonia Alcantrara-Antoine, Director
Newport News Library Systems*

HOW TO ESTABLISH A MAYOR'S BOOK CLUB?

- Determine your Club's willingness and ability to take on the project to include securing volunteers for a number of classrooms and schools.
- Meet with Mayor and other local officials to determine desire/need; include school representative such as school principal and reading specialist and central office support, if possible, to establish program parameters.
- Reach out to community groups for volunteer support to:
 - a. Read to the children.
 - b. Talk with the children about the story.
 - c. Ask the children questions related to the story.
 - d. Explain the meaning of words to the children.



- Set up the schedule with school principal/reading specialist.
- Establish how to pay for books: solicit school system such as Title I, who has funds to purchase books for classroom libraries; solicit funds from community services groups, city budget, etc. (Books usually cost between \$3.00 - \$5.00 each)
- If no other book clubs exist near you, consider taking a year to grow support and funding. Speak to other Kiwanis Clubs and service organization such as Rotary, Lions, Friends of the Library, etc. for funding support and volunteers.
- Once you have funding for the number of students/schools you desire to serve, central office may have a committee to select books that coordinate with monthly classroom instructional themes.
- Your Central office staff orders and pays for classroom sets.
- When books arrive, have a team to organize the books for each class, putting the teacher's name on each set. Box them up to send out to the schools. Boxes are labeled for each school and month for which they are to be used. Organizing two months of books means the team only comes in every other month.
- Establish a list of volunteer readers and prepare a sheet with the classrooms where they will read to include tips about the book and questions.
- Volunteers are solicited online through *GoogleDocs* to allow a "live" signup of readers. This can be done by someone who never meets the readers but has an email system set up to solicit their support.
- Volunteers generally read to three classrooms during their monthly visit. The readings are 20 minutes each and so in an hour a reader can read to three classes. Generally the reading specialist in the school ensures they sign in and directs them to the classes, as needed.
- Volunteers should receive a book to give for each classroom's library. After the story has been read, the reader shall present each student with their gift of their own personal book.
- An end of year volunteer recognition may be set up by Kiwanis or through the City.