

MEMORANDUM

To: All District and School-Level Administrators and Teachers
From: Dr. Marcia Oglesby, *Director, DCSD Grants & Partnerships*
Through: Dr. Cherisse M. Campbell, *Chief, Community Engagement & Innovative Partnerships*
Date: May 22, 2026
Subject: *Funding Focus Friday: Keep Students Reading with BOOK IT! Summer of Stories™*

With the final days of the school year upon us, here's a family-friendly summer reading opportunity that offers a simple, motivating way to keep students reading and learning beyond the classroom.

The [BOOK IT! The Summer of Stories™](#) program, offered by Pizza Hut, is a free summer reading incentive for students in Pre-K through 6th grade. During June, July, and August, families can enroll their children via the official [BOOK IT! Mobile App](#), set customized monthly reading goals, track progress, and help students earn digital Reading Award Certificates® for a free one-topping Personal Pan Pizza® at participating Pizza Hut locations.

This opportunity is especially timely as schools work to help families prevent summer learning loss for children ages 4-12 and maintain strong literacy habits between school years. Teachers and administrators can play an important role by sharing this opportunity with families in end-of-year family messages, classroom newsletters, school websites, and other parent communication channels before students leave for the summer.

There are several practical benefits to this opportunity:

- **Reduces summer learning loss:** Encourages students to continue reading throughout the summer months, helping them return to school better prepared for the next grade level.
- **Strengthens family engagement:** Gives families an easy tool to set reading goals, monitor progress, and celebrate student success at home.
- **Supports literacy confidence:** Helps young readers build stamina, fluency, comprehension, and enjoyment through consistent reading practice.
- **Creates a positive incentive for achievement:** Recognize students for meeting reading goals with a fun, familiar reward that reinforces effort and follow-through.
- **Bridges classroom learning and summer routines:** Offers teachers a simple resource to share with families for end-of-year communication, summer learning, or newsletters.

This program aligns with DCSD's commitment to student academic success, literacy development, family engagement, and community partnership. It also supports the [District's Strategic Plan priorities](#) by encouraging clear school-to-family communication, strengthening home learning routines, and connecting families with accessible resources that support student achievement.

Learn more about this reading program opportunity at www.bookitprogram.com/fag.

Thank you for continuing to support meaningful literacy opportunities that keep DCSD students engaged, encouraged, and ready to learn beyond the regular school year!

The Department of Grants and Partnerships encourages DCSD educators to pursue this opportunity and bring bold, student-centered ideas to life. Remember to follow the [DCSD Grant Guidelines](#) and coordinate with the [Department of Grants and Partnerships](#) on next steps. To begin your application, have questions answered, or get experienced advice, feel free to email us at grantsandpartnerships@dekalbschoolsga.org.

[Dr. Marcia Oglesby](#), *Director*
[Ms. Tanya Arrington](#), *Strategic Partners Manager*

[Dr. Donald Porter](#), *Lead Grant Strategist*
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Looking for more grant inspiration and options? The latest, fully searchable issue of the Monthly Education Grants Alert (*MEGA*) is available [HERE](#).

Good luck!