

Valley View Battle of the Books 2026-2027



Sign-up will be open October 5th-9th
(Google form will only be open during these dates)

Dear Fourth or Fifth-Grade Student(s) and Parent(s),

All fourth and fifth-grade students in the district are eligible to participate in a program called “Battle of the Books.” BOB, as it is sometimes referred to, is a program where teams of students read pre-selected titles and then answer competition questions based on those books. The back of this letter contains the official list of titles for 2026-27. The program may sound familiar as Parkview Middle School has been participating in it since 1984 and we have participated at Pioneer and Valley View Elementary Schools for several years now.

Between October 5th-9th, students can sign-up for the program by filling out [this Google form](#). Teams will consist of three or four students and be formed at the first BOB meeting during lunch recess on Wednesday, October 14th. We are requiring teammates to be from the same grade because all meetings/battles will take place during lunch recess, and 4th and 5th graders do not have the same schedule. Students that sign-up need to be responsible for attending meetings as it puts a strain on the team if they don’t show up or drop out once the program begins.

Meeting schedule: Will be shared after the first meeting!

Students will have until January to read the pre-selected books and take notes about them. Multiple copies of the books will be available for checkout as part of the Valley View School library collection, but students can also get copies from any other sources. Teams will have the opportunity to meet with me approximately once a week after lunch to go over reading and note-taking strategies, run through sample questions, and ask any other questions their team may have as they are reading. The three actual book “battles” (team quizzes) will happen the weeks of January 19, 25, and February 1, during lunch recess. After these battles are over we will crown a school team “champion” and they will go on to compete in the state-wide online competition which takes place during a selected lunch recess during the week of February 22-26, 2027.

Battle of the Books is a great way to challenge all levels of readers in a format that is both fun and easy. I hope that you will encourage your students to consider taking part in Valley View’s “Battle of the Books” program this year.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns about the program. I can be reached at 492-2935, ext. 3314. You may also email me at kryoungerryczkowski@ashwaubenonk12.org.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Kaitlin Younger Ryczkowski
Valley View Media Specialist



2027 WEMTA Battle of the Books Elementary Division (grades 4-6)

Golden Archer Nominees (Primary)

All at Once Upon a Time by Mara Rockliff
Don't Trust Fish by Neil Sharpson
Flat Cat by Tara Lazar
Not a Monster by Claudia Guadalupe Martinez
Stalactite and Stalagmite by Drew Beckmeyer

Golden Archer Nominees (Intermediate)

Baby-Sitters Little Sister: Karen's Ghost (Graphix) by DK Yingst
Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Partypooer by Jeff Kinney
Growing Home by Beth Ferry
I Survived the Dust Bowl, 1935 by Lauren Tarshis
Pocket Bear by Katherine Applegate

Advisors' Choices

Curveball by Pablo Cartaya
The Dragonet Prophecy: Wings of Fire by Tui Sutherland
Dragons in a Bag by Zetta Elliott
Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library by Chris Grabenstein (previously used in 2021)
Ferris by Kate DiCamillo
Front Desk by Kelly Yang (previously used 2020)
The Million Dollar Shot by Dan Gutman (previously used in 2019)
Skunk and Badger by Amy Timberlake
The Terrible Two by Mac Barnett
Twenty-One Steps by Jeff Gottesfeld