

Southern Elementary School Media Center

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Your student, _____, has expressed interest in joining the Southern Elementary School (SES) Battle of the Books Club. The club is open to 4th and 5th graders who sign up to join, return a commitment letter, and actively participate throughout the school year.

What is Battle of the Books (BOB)? The North Carolina School Library Media Association has promoted this program to encourage, interest, and excite readers of all abilities through a game style competition. Participating schools take a representative team to a BOB competition in March to demonstrate their knowledge of the year's BOB books.

Here at SES, we want to include as many students as possible in our club. We have outlined our goals below:

1. To encourage Southern Elementary students to read
2. To develop an appreciation of a variety of literary genres, themes, and topics
3. To promote analytical thinking and discussion of books among students
4. To strengthen reading strategies, and
5. To promote reading as not only a means of learning but also as a fun and enjoyable lifelong activity.

Students in the club **are not required** to go to the competition. They may fully participate in the club without competing. **However, those students who are interested in being selected as one of the twelve competitors on the team must work hard to earn one of those spots.**

Our representative team can consist of up to 12 members who are selected from our active club participants. To be selected as a team member, club members must 1) actively participate and regularly attend their club meetings; 2) be a 4th or 5th grader; 3) demonstrate a wide and varied knowledge of the BOB books; and 4) demonstrate SES model behavior by making responsible choices, treating others with respect, and always showing self-control.

The entire club will meet once each month after school until the team is established before Thanksgiving Break. When we return from Thanksgiving Break, the team members will begin meeting weekly after school.

We encourage club members to check out copies of the books from the media center. If you would like them to have personal copies of the BOB books they are reading, you can often find inexpensive used copies at www.amazon.com, Scholastic, or Edward McKay's Used Books. You are in no way obligated to purchase any books for your child to be in the club or on the team.

We hope that you will allow your child to join us on this reading adventure this year. If so, please complete the enclosed commitment form and have your child **return it to the media center by Friday, October 14th.**

If you have any further questions, please email Ms. Chrisman at chrisms@gcsnc.com or call 674-4325. We are looking forward to a great BOB year!

Sincerely,

Sarah Chrisman
SES Library Media Specialist
BOB Coordinator

Jody Miller
5th Grade Language Arts Teacher
BOB Coordinator