



FAQ Document: Principals

Q: What are my main responsibilities as a Principal with Rise Up Read More?

A: Schools that are intentional about reinforcing independent reading across their entire building, tend to see the most success when it comes to increased student achievement. Consider creating class level, grade level, or schoolwide reading competitions that will motivate students to read more books. The more books they read for your school competitions, the higher the chance they have of winning the District's quarterly challenge. Reach out to the Office of Literacy, or an ELA teacher in your building, for some ideas on how to implement these school wide competitions. Aside from these investment strategies, here are some of the mandatory technical responsibilities of principals...

- 1) Encourage students to keep reading independently at home.
- 2) Remind teachers to support students in tracking their reading and submitting their reader responses.
- 3) Engage parents and community members to support these reading initiatives.
- 4) Report the total number of books read at your school to the district using a link that will be emailed to you near the end of each quarter. The reporting deadlines for each quarter are listed in the table below.

Q: What are the dates for the quarterly challenges?

A:

| Challenge dates | Reporting deadlines | Award Announcement | Award Delivery Date |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Quarter 3 January 28- April 11 | April 19 | April 26 | Week of April 29 |
| Quarter 4 April 12- May 24 | May 31 | June 7 | Week of June 10 |

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Q: How are students in my building expected to keep track of their nightly reading?

A: Students are expected to use their District planners to track their reading (15 minutes/night for K-8 students and 60 minutes/week for High School students). Parents of K-8 students are expected to sign off on their child's reading times.

Q: What if some of our students have misplaced their District planner and need a new one?

A: We are not able to replace District planners for students who misplaced them. They are welcome to purchase their own planner at Walmart or Target to track their nightly reading. Teachers are also able to provide students with their own version of a reading tracker to document their nightly reading times.

Q: What if we have received new students after teachers passed out District planners at the start of the school year?

A: We have extra District planners for students that enrolled in their school after the original District planners were first passed out. Before you request a new planner, make sure you check your main office/book room to ensure that your school doesn't have any extra planners packed away. If you are positive that your school doesn't have any extra, email steven.benson@detroitk12.org with how many planners you need.

Q: Do teachers have to use the District planners? What if students in my building are already tracking their reading on a reading log that their teacher gave them at the start of the year?

A: No, the District planners are not required. They are just a suggestion since all students should have received a planner. Feel free to encourage teachers to require that their students track their reading in some other way (reading log, paper tracker, etc.).

Q: Once a student finishes a book, what do they do?

A: On the night they finish their book, they should write the title of that book in their planner. Then, they have to answer one of the questions from the [reader response](#) sheet. They can submit a written response to their teacher, or they can submit a video response on FlipGrid. Once they complete 1 of the 2 options, their book will be counted as complete and they can move on to their next book.

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Q: What is FlipGrid?

A: It's an app/website that allows teachers and students to create videos and share them with each other. It's similar to snapchat, but more professional and is intended for academic purposes. [Click here](#) to learn more about FlipGrid. Remember, students don't have to use FlipGrid to submit their reflection for their book. They also have the choice to submit a written reflection.

Q: How many schools win the quarterly competitions?

A: 2 schools from each cohort win. Click [here](#) to find the list of cohorts. Cohorts A&B and will have 2 K-8 winners. Cohorts C&D will both have 1 K-8 winner and 1 High School winner.

Q: What are the quarterly prizes my school can win?

A: Each quarterly winner will receive a special treat (served by District staff) for all students and staff during breakfast or lunch. Some options include ice cream sundaes, root beer floats, donuts and hot chocolate, etc.

Q: What is this about a grand prize winner at the end of the year?

A: All of the quarterly winners receive 1 entry into the grand prize raffle. If a school wins both quarters, they receive 2 entries. At the end of the year, we will randomly pick one school to win the grand prize. Some options for the grand prize include school dance, private viewing of a movie, skating party, or school concert.

Q: What is this about a 10 book reading goal?

A: In order to honor individual students for their accomplishments in reading, all K-8 students that read at least 10 books by the end of the school year are invited to the Reading Extravaganza. At the event, students will receive certificates, medals, and other prizes to celebrate their reading successes throughout the year. More details to come.

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