

Alton School District

Young Authors' Celebration of Writing 2020-2021



The Alton School District is continuing the tradition of celebrating our Young Authors. Students are invited to put their creativity to paper over the next few months. Young Authors criteria is on the back of this page. More detailed information is available at altonschools.org under the Parents tab. **All student books will be collected by January 15, 2021.**

Please fill out the following Google Form to request a paper packet and sign up for Young Authors. This link can be found at altonschools.org under the Parents tab. Students can also sign up by notifying the building representatives below.

<https://forms.gle/UMD8M9RANmAX7Yhp6>

Listed below are school representatives. Please call your child's school for additional information.

Eunice Smith, 463-2077: Cindy Lowe

Gilson Brown, 463-2175: Melissa Sharpe, Kristina Mandrell & Cathy Johnson

Lewis & Clark, 463-2177: Erin Dooling

Lovejoy, 463-2057: Jamie Landry

North, 463-2171: Tonya Steed and Sarah Boyd

West, 463-2134: Julie Gorsage, Amy Miller, Amber Sims, Jan Wrischnik,
Florence Wilton & Stacy Phelps

East, 463-2130: Sara Schmidt & Shannon Boyd

Alton Middle School, 474-2200: Carrie Schildroth

Additional Information:

- All participating students will be recognized at their school. Committees at each school will review all books based on the criteria.
- Some students will also be selected to represent their school at our district Young Author's Celebration on **March 4, 2021**. More information on this event will be provided at a later date.
- A few authors of exemplar books will be chosen to represent our district at the Madison County Young Authors Conference on **April 24, 2021**.

Young Author's Criteria

- The book must be original and must be the student's own work. For this project there should only be one author per book.
- Books should contain:
 - **Covers on both front and back.** The front cover must include the title and the author's name. An illustration is a nice touch, but is optional.
 - **Title Page:** Should include title of the book, the author's full name, the teacher's name, the student's grade, and the student's school.
 - **Dedication Page:** Optional, but adds a nice touch to the book.
 - **Table of contents:** For longer chapter books to identify the chapters and pages they begin on.
 - **Text:** This is the student's story. The text may or may not include illustrations.
 - **About the Author Page:** Includes information about the author. May also include a picture.
- Book length suggestions:
 - Grades 5-6: five or more pages
 - Grades 7-8: seven or more pages
- A fictional story should have these things:
 - **Characters:** People, animals, or creatures involved in the story.
 - **Plot:** What happens? Can include a situation or a problem to be solved.
 - **Setting:** When and where the story/action happens.
 - **Climax:** The point of highest interest or emotion in the story.
 - **Resolution:** The part of the plot representing the final outcome. Can also represent when the problem is solved.
- A nonfiction story should have accurate information relating to the topic. Nonfiction stories can be organized into sections with headings as well as display other text features such as charts, timelines, maps, etc.
- Attention to details:
 - **Proofreading:** Check spelling, punctuation and grammar.
 - **Neatness:** Check penmanship and quality of illustrations.
- Please turn your book in on time. Remember to plan ahead. Books take time, effort, and careful planning.

Please reach out to your school's Young Authors Teacher Representative early if you have questions about the criteria or if you would like another adult to proofread the book. Authors are known to consult with others when writing a book. Books take time and effort, so remember to plan ahead.

All books are due to the school representative by Friday, January 15, 2021. Be sure to turn your book in on time to be considered for recognition at the school, district and county events.