

It's Reading Fair Time!

January 30, 2023

Dear Students and Parents,

It's time for the JPS Reading Fair! The purpose of the competition is to provide students the opportunity to showcase their favorite fiction or nonfiction books. The goal of the reading fair is to enhance and encourage reading at all grade levels and to allow students to collaborate with their families and peers. There are three levels of competition: classroom, school, and district.

The complete Reading Fair Guidelines are available on the Obama Magnet website at www.jackson.k12.ms.us/Obama. The guidelines include a very helpful tool for project planning to make sure that all of the correct elements are on the board.

Obama Magnet School Reading Fair schedule:

Tuesday, February 20 – Projects due to school

Tuesday, February 20 – Thursday, February 22 – Classroom presentations (top 5 from each class progress to school-wide reading fair)

Friday, February 23 – School-wide Reading Fair (**First place winners** from each division will advance to the District Reading Fair on March 8.)

Please remember these important details:

- Students in grades K-2 may ONLY compete in the fiction category.
- Students in grades 3-5 may compete in either the fiction or non-fiction category; non-fiction projects have different requirements for the board. Please look at that carefully.
- Projects boards should be no taller or smaller than the 36" height x 48" width area of the project board. **The small project boards will not be permitted at the Obama Magnet Reading Fair.** Do not use the add-on header on the top of the project. Projects that are not the proper size will be disqualified from the fair.
- Judges will pay close attention to **evidence of students' work**. If all of the work is typed and the artwork was not created by the child, it is hard to find evidence of student work and points will be deducted when scoring. Please see the guidelines online.
- Jackson Public Schools has specified that **no Summer Reading books** be used. This will automatically disqualify you from the competition.

Other items to note:

- Identifying information (name of student(s), division, student's grade level, homeroom teacher, school, and district name) should be **labeled on the back of the storyboard**. Please use the attached label on the back of the board. **Student's name and/or a picture of the student should not be on the front of the board.**
- Storyboards should be colorful and interesting. Try to convey the mood or tone of the book in the project. Models, shadowboxes, and illustrations that fit in the middle of the display (on the table) are allowed and encouraged. **The board may include 3-dimensional objects** as long as they don't exceed the height or width of the board.

- Items on the board can be handwritten or typed. Younger students may require assistance in writing, typing, spelling, cutting, etc. This is permissible and part of the learning process; however, student work should be evident.
- There should be **no errors (spelling or grammar)** on the board. Please read over your child's work before pasting on the board.
- No part of the project should be plagiarized. Projects that have plagiarism will be disqualified. Plagiarism will be treated as a violation of the Integrity Pledge signed by students and parents and will result in an office write up.
- Electrical cords are not allowed at any level of competition.
- **Internet images (like book covers) are copyrighted materials and credit must be given to the creator or source.** If this is not on the board, 10 points will be deducted. See additional information in the guidelines. *Judges would much rather see student work than the work that someone else has done!*

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For 3rd - 5th grade students completing a non-fiction project - please note that the elements on a non-fiction project are different than what's expected on a fiction project board! Every year some projects are disqualified for not having the correct information on a board.

If you would like a printed copy of the Reading Fair Guidelines, or if you have any questions, please email Kacy Hellings: khellings@jackson.k12.ms.us

Please cut out and use the following label on the back of the project board:

Name _____
Division _____
Grade Level _____
Teacher's Name _____
School _____ Obama Magnet School _____
Jackson Public Schools

Choose your division:

Fiction, Family

Division A – Kindergarten
Division B – Grades 1-2

Fiction, Individual

Division C – Grade 3
Division D – Grades 4-5

Non-fiction, Individual

Division G – Grades 3-5

Fiction, Group- (no more than 3 in a group)

Division J – Grades 3-5

Non-fiction, Group (no more than 3 in a group)

Division M – Grades 3-5