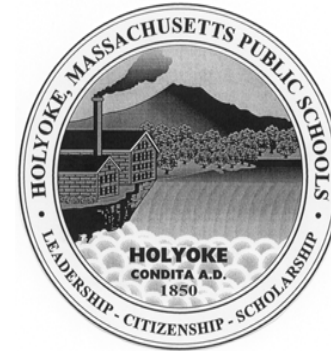


HOLYOKE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS
Mr. David Dupont, Superintendent



25 BOOKS CAMPAIGN

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

We all like to hear good and encouraging news, and we have some for you. All students and teachers are participating in a district-wide 25 Books Campaign, reading at least 25 Books with the goal of reading one million words a year, using a Book Reading Log and discussing books that they have read.

What is our goal?

The goal is for all students to read one million words every year.

Why 25 Books?

Research shows that students should read about one million words a year in order to develop sufficient vocabulary and continually improve their reading proficiency. This translates into approximately 25 books a year.

How to get it done?

Every student will be reading throughout the school day, after school, and at home. It is important for students to develop good reading habits by reading daily, reading a variety of genres and authors, reading independently and with assistance, being read to, reading to others, discussing what is read and expanding their vocabulary.

How to keep track of their reading?

Each student keeps a reading log for recording the range and depth of materials read. The schools will celebrate students' progress when they reach 6,12,18,25 and 30 books.

Is there a difference between grade levels?

Yes, there is a difference. Fourth and 5th graders read books that average 125 pages in length and 37,500 words. Third graders, who tend to read shorter books, read about 30 books. Kindergarten, 1st graders, and 2nd graders have to work their way through many more books to reach the goal. On the other hand, a typical young adult novel includes about 60,000 words.

How can parents help?

Parents and guardians are valuable partners in the 25 Books Campaign. Here are some ideas to remember:

- ☺ Encourage your child to read at home. It can be independently, reading aloud to a sibling or to you.
- ☺ Set aside a special place to read.
- ☺ Provide 20 to 30 minutes of daily, quiet, and uninterrupted time for reading.
- ☺ Get your child a library card and make trips to the library to get books.
- ☺ Become aware of your child's interests and seek out books to support them.
- ☺ Discuss with your child the book that they are reading.
- ☺ Most important, make the time to share with your child the love for reading.

The 25 Books Campaign helps create a culture of reading in our schools and in your homes. We hope that students develop the momentum they need to become regular readers.

Information obtained from America's Choice Monographs