

## Battle of the Books Frequently Asked Questions

### ***What is it?***

Battle of the Books is a motivational and competitive reading program that provides a fun environment while encouraging students to read good books. Rocky Run sponsors large teams of students that read and discuss 20 books through the academic year. Students quiz each other on the content and compete at school and regional events.

The goals of the program are to broaden reading interests, increase reading comprehension, and provide opportunities for readers to connect with other readers. In addition, Battle of the Books fosters fair competition and encourages team building skills. In addition, Battle of the Books fosters fair competition and encourages team building skills. If you have questions about Battle of the Books not listed in this document, please email [ragrover@fcps.edu](mailto:ragrover@fcps.edu).

### ***Does it cost anything to join?***

Battle of the Books has a \$10 fee to participate (see the After School page for details). This covers staff, books, and each student's team shirt. *Please see Ms. Grover if you would like to participate but your family cannot afford the fee. It is your parent's responsibility to arrange transportation for all activities, including meetings, school battle, and regional competitions.*

Applications to join Battle of the Books indicate a commitment to the program. Application refunds will not be given in the event a student decides to drop out once he/she has been accepted to the club.

### ***How many students are accepted to the club?***

The cap for 2021-2022 is 40 students. The first 40 applications to be received will be accepted. In the school and regional battles, students will compete in teams of five, which will be determined based on consistent attendance, participation, and knowledge of the books.

### ***Will all the team members be in the same grade?***

Teams will be a mixed group of 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

### ***How are the teams formed?***

Teams of 5-7 students will be formed after a few meetings of Battle of the Books. Students will get input into who is part of their team.

### ***How often does Battle of the Books meet?***

Battle of the Books meets once a week after school during the first session on Wednesdays. The calendar of meeting dates will be published once applications close.

### ***What happens when we meet?***

Students discuss books with each other, practice creating and answering questions about the books you have read, and compete in fun quiz-style games to get ready for competitions.

### ***Do I have to read every book?***

No, but it is suggested that everyone reads as many books as possible. This will help with competitions! While most parts of the competitions are team-based, there are some parts that are individual competition. The more you read, the better!

### ***Who decides which books are on the list?***

The Rocky Run Chapter of Battle of the Books belongs to the Piedmont Region, which sets the list of books for the region. There are 20 books every year made up of a variety of genres and reading levels.

### ***Where do I get all these books?***

There are four copies of each book that will be housed in a Battle of the Books bin in the library and one copy as an eBook on MackinVIA. You can also check them out at our school library, the public library, bookstore, as an e-book, or wherever else books are available.

***When do we compete?***

The Piedmont Region holds an “Open” competition in January for teams to get a feel for competition and the types of questions being asked. During the Open, points will be given but there is no “winner” of the tournament.

There will be a school battle at the end of March/beginning of April. All teams at Rocky Run will participate. The top 2 teams with the most points in the schoolwide Battle will represent Rocky Run at the Piedmont Regional Competition in the spring.

Due to Covid, competitions are tentative for in-person or virtual this year. There will definitely be competition, though!

***What kinds of questions will be asked?***

Each book will be covered using an individual multiple-choice written test, team vs. team In What Book battles, and a team quotation answer round. Questions center around theme, plot, characters, setting, and important quotations from each book. There are also questions about specific items from the book.

*If you have additional questions, feel free to stop by the library and ask Mrs. Grover. 😊*