

PARENTAL/CUSTODIAL GUARDIAN FORM

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The Battle of the Books Program is a VOLUNTARY reading competition designed to promote the love and appreciation of reading to elementary school fifth- and sixth-grade students. *Battle Books* are selected based on the recommendations from school and public librarians; we are proud of our recommended titles for this program, and believe they all have a degree of literary value. The aim of this program is to encourage students to read a variety of books and remember information about the plots, characters, and settings of the books.

Teams consist of three students apiece; a team of two students is acceptable, as long as it is understood that another member may not be added to the team after the first competition has begun unless a team member moves away. Replacements cannot be from another team. All formation of the teams and accountability for scores rests with the school librarian. As a model for your child's behavior, we ask all parents who wish their child to participate in this VOLUNTARY program to agree to the following conditions:

- 1) Transcribing questions is prohibited.
- 2) Audible prompting from the audience is prohibited.
- 3) Videotaping of a Battle is NOT allowed to maintain the integrity of the competition.
- 4) Only members of the team receiving a question can challenge the question. The challenge must occur immediately upon finding that an answer is incorrect.
- 5) Team members may not enter or exit the competition area during a round.
- 6) All decisions of librarians and judges are final. There are NO challenges after the battle.



Return signatures below to the school and keep the information above. Thank you!

NOTE: Schools keep all signature forms & bring them with them to each battle.

My Student and I agree to participate in the MPS *Battle of the Books* program as noted above.

Printed Name, Signature & Date: _____
Student

Printed Name, Signature & Date: _____
Parent / Legal Guardian