



Dear Parents of an almost Third, Fourth or Fifth Grader,

Each school year third, fourth and fifth grade students participate in the Sequoyah Children's Reading Program. The Oklahoma Library Association established the Sequoyah Book Award program in 1959 to encourage students across the state to read books of literary quality so many of you may have had the opportunity to participate. Each year the Sequoyah Children's Reading Committee provides a new list of award winning books, referred to as the Sequoyah Masterlist. Students in third, fourth, and fifth grades are encouraged to read or listen to at least three from the list so they can be eligible to vote for their favorite in March 2017. All votes are tallied and sent to the Oklahoma Library Association. The winning author is then announced near the end of the month.

At Northern Hills we take this opportunity to review the voting process so the children can practice being responsible citizens. The children are in charge of "registering" to vote. This requires the student to come to the media center, log the title which they have read or heard and complete a sheet about the story elements for each book they read. Forms can be found on the Sequoyah shelf in the library and also linked on our school website. All of this procedure is explained and practiced during a library media lesson at the end and beginning of the school year. A copy of the form and list of books can also be found on the Media Center Website. <http://northernhills.edmondschools.net/media-center-2/sequoyah-book-award/>

Since this reading program lasts most of the school year, we encourage our students to do more! We encourage 3rd grade to read 6, 4th grade to read 7 and 5th grade to read 8 books from the Sequoyah list. This would be a colossal opportunity for family read-alouds and discussions. These books will be available from our school library for check out. The public library or Best of Books are also great places to find these books!

Get a head start reading this summer and Happy Reading!

Mrs. Cohlma, Library Media Specialist

julia.cohlma@edmondschools.net

726-3614

