

ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

## Valley View Educational Enrichment Foundation Grant Application

**Please read all instructions before completing this grant form.**

Title of Proposal: A. B. C. (Authors, Books, and Caudill)

Type of Proposal: New \_\_\_\_ Renewal ☒ *If renewal,*  
*Evaluation Submitted (date):*  
*Evaluation attached* \_\_\_\_

Applicant's Name: **Author Name**

School: **School Name**

Grade Level(s): 6-8

School Address: **Address**

School Telephone: **XXX-XXX-XXXX**

Home Telephone:

E-mail address: **name@vvsd.org**

Area of Concentration (math, art, etc.): Reading

Approximate number of students involved: 800

Grant Duration: Starting 8/29/XX Ending 3/28/XX

Amount Requested: \$ 5,900

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date:

### Foundation Use

Proposal Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Proposal I.D. Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Valley View Educational Enrichment Foundation Grant Application

### I. SUMMARY INFORMATION

Title: A. B. C. (Authors, Books, and Caudill)

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Approximate number of students involved: 800

Area of concentration (*math, fine arts, etc.*): Reading

Grant Duration: Starting 8/29/09 Ending 3/28/09

### II. PROPOSAL ABSTRACT

*(Please write a summary paragraph of three to six sentences that describe your proposal.)*

This grant is designed to promote an interest in lifelong reading for pleasure by providing a special event that connects teenagers to new and interesting books. This program is designed to give students a needed break from the rigor of their Language Arts classes and provide them with an opportunity to read a contemporary book of their choice and participate in a selection of the "best book award" with other teens from the state. The main goal of the events is to connect all readers (struggling, reluctant, and accelerated) to a high interest book, author, or genre that will keep them reading.

### III. PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

#### A. General Description

*(Please provide a single-page description of your project.)*

Beginning in August students will participate in a book talk workshop. Students on each team will be divided into small groups and will be presented with an interesting and engaging book talk highlighting the books featured on the Rebecca Caudill Book List. Students will be encouraged to set a goal of choosing three of the books featured in the book talks which would then entitle them to participate in the voting party February. During the book talk workshop titles of each of the books will be available for purchased at a discount price.

Throughout the year the students will be encouraged to keep up their reading and discuss the books they chose with different staff members in the building. When student discuss connections they made to the book with a staff member their “ticket” will be signed. Once students have three different books signed off they will be eligible for the voting party in February. Students will also be adding a link to their grade level reading chain which will be hanging in the cafeteria. Middle School students are always interested in the added excitement of a competition among the classes, therefore we will be keeping track of which class has read the most and what they are reading in a visual way. Announcements will be made recapping the book talks from August to remind students of book titles and their genre. There will also be a display of the books on the Caudill list and book summaries available in the library.

The voting party will be in February. All the students who are eligible will be invited to a voting party to be held in the main dining room. Students will be treated to a pizza party, receive a gift bag of school supplies, a certificate for meeting the challenge and participating in the program. During the party students will be able to vote for their favorite book from the list. The book the wins the most votes will then be submitted to the state to be added to the other participating schools and a state winner will be announced. Students will also be able to complete a ballot of categories based upon the books they read; best lead character, best villain, best cover, etc.

Another aspect of the grant will be devoted to hosting an author. The ideal situation will be to invite an author from the Caudill list. However, if we are unable to book a current author, we will focus on a previous year’s nominee or winner. Once the author is confirmed the entire school will focus on one of the titles from the other, creating a “One school, One Author” program. Students will be making connections to the chosen novel by casting the characters in a “movie”, redesigning the book cover, and other activities. We will culminate the reading of the novel with meeting the author; students will be responsible for generating questions, determining a gift, and participating in the author’s visit.

**B. What specific results do you expect from implementation of your project?**

By implementing this program into the building I hope to encourage more students to read. This program is designed for students to choose books that interest them, and they are allowed to read it at their own pace. Their specific reading skills are not assessed, however in being given the chance to discuss the books they read they prove their understanding of the authors purpose, genre, and describe the connections they made to the book. It is designed to be fun and engaging. Students will be practicing reading, increasing fluency and comprehension.

**C. How would implementation of your project relate to Valley View curriculum?**

This program is directly connected to the ISBE Language Arts Learning Standards.

“STATE GOAL 1: Read with understanding and fluency.

Why This Goal Is Important: Reading is essential. It is the process by which people gain information and ideas from books, newspapers, manuals, letters, contracts, advertisements and a host of other materials. Using strategies for constructing meaning before, during and after reading will help students connect what they read now with what they have learned in the past. Students who read well and widely build a strong foundation for learning in all areas of life.

STATE GOAL 2: Read and understand literature representative of various societies, eras and ideas.

Why This Goal Is Important: Literature transmits ideas, reflects societies and eras and expresses the human imagination. It brings understanding, enrichment and joy. Appreciating literature and recognizing its many forms enable students to learn and respond to ideas, issues, perspectives and actions of others. Literature study includes understanding the structure and intent of a short poem or a long, complex book. By exploring the techniques that authors use to convey messages and evoke responses, students connect literature to their own lives and daily experiences.” (www.isbe.net”)

**D. Does your proposal affect a diverse student population? If so, how?**

*(i.e. 5<sup>th</sup> graders tutoring 2<sup>nd</sup> graders, Challenge students helping Special Ed Students)*

This program is designed to affect the entire population of our building. Every student will have an opportunity to participate in the program. Our building is set up as teams, and each team will be designing activities to meet the needs of their students as well.

**IV. REPLICATION AND/OR USE OF RESULTS****A. Is your proposal modeled after any existing project in Valley View or elsewhere? If so, please describe.**

I am modeling this program after one I saw in Warrenville, IL at Wheaton North High School. I had the opportunity to meet the women in charge and visit the school on the day the program was having its "kick off". I thought the modifications I made to their program make it much more appropriate to the middle school level. The program was implemented in our building this school year and it was highly successful. I am wanting to share the success with the other middle schools in our district to encourage a district wide battle of the books to compliment the students' interest in reading.

**B. How might the results of your project be disseminated to benefit another school or grade?**

I believe that all schools should have an incentive reading program in place. This program would be easy to replicate in any middle school in our district. Introducing good literature to students, and giving them the opportunity to hear about great books, and listen to authors speak can only encourage a reader at any level. This year, thanks to the grant we received last year, our students were excited to meet one of the most popular books authors. Every child in the school had the opportunity to ask her questions and have a book autographed, it truly brought the book to life.

**V. EVALUATION PLAN**

**What evaluation strategy will you use to determine if the objectives listed in Section B have been achieved (tests, pre and post-activity, survey, etc.)? How will you analyze these data?**

The success of the program will be based on the numbers of students who will participate in the voting party. Success will also be based on the interest and enthusiasm of the students participating in the author visit. Staff and students will also participate in a survey which will identify all the areas that helped them make their choice; book marks, book summaries/jackets, display tables, posters, student/friend/staff recommendation, book talks, increased availability of book titles or the author visit. If 85% or more of the participants identify book marks, display tables, posters, student/friend/staff recommendation, book talks, increased availability of book titles or author visit which are all elements unique to the program due to the grant then it will be successful.

**VI. TASKS/ACTIVITIES**

**List in chronological order, the MAJOR tasks or activities you will perform in order to implement your project. Indicate the position of the person responsible for each task and how much time will be allowed for each activity.**

Activity/Task	Time Required	Position of Person Responsible
Arrange for guest speakers for book talks	1 week	Coordinator

Create book marks for book talk workshop and send to printshop	1 week	Coordinator
Create handout with book summary for each title of book	1 week	Coordinator
Meet with Language Arts teachers to arrange book talk workshop	1 hour	Coordinator
Schedule students into small groups for book talk workshop	3 hours	Coordinator & Language Arts team
Develop specific content for book talks and announcements	3 weeks	Coordinator, guest speakers
Arrange for bookstore to make books available to students at a discount price	1 hour	Coordinator
Create newsletter to parents about workshops and opportunity to purchase books	1 week	Coordinator
Create posters to promote book talk workshops voting party, and books on the Caudill List and	1 week	Coordinator
Create "ticket" which needs to be signed for participation in the voting party for each student	1 hour	Coordinator
Collect "tickets", crate invites for students eligible for the voting party	1 week	Coordinator
Purchase items and assemble gift bags for students	1 week	Coordinator
Order pizza and arrange for delivery	15 minutes	Coordinator
Arrange for author visit	1-2 weeks	Coordinator
Meet with Language Arts teachers to introduce author, outline visit, and choose level from said author	45 minutes	Coordinator & Language Arts team

**VII. BUDGET**

*(All cost and funding sources must be itemized and included)*

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>COST</b>
<b>Materials or Equipment</b> <i>(itemize)</i>	
Book talk speakers (outside district) 2 speakers @ \$300 ea for 2 days	\$600
Set of Caudill Book title for each team and special education (7 @ 175 ea)	\$1,225
Color printing at printshop	\$75
Pizza for voting party (40 @ \$10 each Ats a Nice Pizza)	\$400
Drinks for voting party	\$200
Cup cakes	\$100
Gift bags and certificates for participants at voting part	\$300
Author visit (presentation, transportation, lodging)	\$3,000
<b>Travel</b>	
<b>Other (Miscellaneous)</b>	
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$5,900</b>

**Staffing** *(include days of release time needed)*

Four professional days will be needed for the coordinator. Two will be needed for the Book Talk Workshops. One will be needed the day of the author visit. One will be needed for the day of the Voting Party

**In Service or Consultation****Space**

All events will be taking place our building.