

ROANOKE RAPIDS TEEN BOOK CLUB

A Collaboration between
Roanoke Rapids Public Library
and Roanoke Rapids High School

After a Meeting



Origins of Book Club

- ▣ Started in 2007
- ▣ Meeting with Youth Service Librarian and High School Media Coordinator
- ▣ Planned a Format for the Club
- ▣ Set Date First Meeting
- ▣ Started with Eight Students in August 2007

Location of Club Meetings

- ▣ Meets weekly while school is in session in the Media Center at Roanoke Rapids High School at 8 am before first classes start
- ▣ Meets monthly generally on third Tuesday of month at 6 pm while school is in session in the conference room of Roanoke Rapids Public Library
- ▣ Does not meet during Summer months

Format of Meetings

- ▣ Election of Officers during First Month of School Year
- ▣ Students vote on YALSA Top Ten Books
- ▣ Students select their own book and choose to give a verbal book review. No one has to share if they do not wish.
- ▣ Everyone does not read the same book although a good review often encourages the teen to circulate a title among themselves

Format of Meetings 2

- ▣ During January when Award Books are announced, I give a program similar to the Academy Awards where I share the winners and honorable mentions and the group discusses the titles. This is the only program I do all year.
- ▣ During Public Library meetings, I provide pizza and beverages. This meeting is 45 minutes long which allows for socialization as well as book talks.

Benefits for the Public Library

- ▣ Circulation for YA books increased nearly 30% the first year and stayed at the 20% increase level for the next three years
- ▣ More teens were coming to the public library to check out books on their own and became aware of our services
- ▣ Greater opportunities for the Head Librarian to speak or read stories at local schools
- ▣ Obtained a motivated staff member

How to Do It? 1

- ▣ A school media coordinator and/or principal with a youth services librarian and/or library director willing to cooperate
- ▣ A commitment to meet at both locations
- ▣ Involve the teens and incorporate their ideas

How to Do It? 2

- ▣ Let the teens choose what they want to read and build off of it instead of having everyone read the same book (Personal Choice)
- ▣ Provide food and refreshments occasionally.
- ▣ With this model, any public library that has a desire to do it can, even small public libraries

Posing for the Camera



THANK YOU!!!

