



TSS BookTalk Policy 2009-10

The Stadium School booktalk policy has been modified in order to increase its effectiveness and to have it to be a better support to the school reading and writing programs. In large part, the booktalk policy will remain the same, but with a few changes.

What components of the Booktalk Policy are the same?

Students may still attain booktalk credits for reading various genres such as fiction, non-fiction, and articles. Students will complete the corresponding booktalk form after reading.

What has been modified?

After completing the booktalk form, students will then write a 3-paragraph book review. The book review will be written using the information that the student wrote in the booktalk form. Students will no longer do oral booktalks with staff members or parents. This book review will take the place of the booktalk. *Students are to attain 10 book review credits throughout the school year.*

Book Credits are earned the same as before: 1 book review credit for every 100 pages of reading and ½ credit for articles consisting of 15 paragraphs or more. ½ credit is also given for 50 pages of reading. All book reviews will now be graded by teachers.

When are book reviews due and how are they graded?

Book credits account for 15% of the total Language Arts grade. Book reviews are due throughout the year.

What are the goals for how these changes will support instruction?

The transition from oral booktalks to written book reviews supports our focus around improving the quality of students' writing and also helps students to organize their thoughts. With this new format, the booktalk form is now used as a graphic organizer to organize information before writing the book review. The completed booktalk form must be attached to the book review upon turning it in.

The use of book reviews will also allow for a higher quality of reflection and is more consistent with the needs of having a larger student population. This will also help prepare students to meet and exceed grade level standards in every subject area and also in testing.

When are students supposed to read?

Students are to read independently at home or on their own time. Students will have the opportunity to earn at least 1 book credit with each of their teachers through in-school activities.



Stadium School Book Review Rubric



LITERATURE

	4	3	2	1	Total
Paragraph 1	Title, genre, and introduction of plot (or main idea for non-fiction); this includes setting, characters, point of view, and conflict.	Missing 1 of the items indicated	Missing 2 of the items indicated	Missing 3 or more of the items indicated	
Paragraph 2	Summarize the plot. (or main idea for non-fiction) This includes rising action, climax, and falling action.	Missing 1 of the items indicated	Missing 2 of the items indicated	Missing 3 or more of the items indicated	
Paragraph 3	Resolution & Drawing Conclusions; entails analyzing the reading by making generalizations and judgements. Also compares/contrasts to another text or make a personal connection to real life	Missing 1 of the items indicated	Missing 2 of the items indicated	Missing 3 or more of the items indicated	
Prewriting Form	Prewriting form is completed sufficiently with all necessary information.	Prewriting form is completed adequately with most necessary information.	Prewriting form incomplete and missing necessary information.	Less than what is required for a 2.	
Grammar/Usage (Capitalization, Usage, Punctuation, Spelling)	No errors in CUPS	1-3 errors in CUPS	4 errors in CUPS	5 or more errors in CUPS	
				Total out of 20	

Stadium School Book Talk Form for LITERATURE

Student Name _____ Date _____ Title and Author _____
of pages _____ #of book review credits? _____

After reading the text, complete this graphic organizer. Then, use the information and the rubric attached to write your 3-paragraph book review.

Characters : List and briefly describe the major characters.

Setting: Describe the time and place of the story OR the most important places in the story.

Conflict: The point at which the characters are introduced and the problem becomes clear:

Rising Actions: The events in the story in which the problem becomes more complicated:

Climax/Turning Point: The high point of action OR the point at which the conflict must be solved.

Falling Action/Resolution: The point at which the problems from the rising action are untangled and the conflict is resolved.

Conclusion: The end of the story; after the problem has been solved.

Stadium School Book Review Rubric



NONFICTION/ARTICLES

	4	3	2	1	Total
Paragraph 1	Title, genre, and give summary of book/article. This includes 5 W's.	Missing 1 of the items indicated	Missing 2 of the items indicated	Missing 3 or more of the items indicated	
Paragraph 2	Summarize the main idea Include supporting details.	Missing 1 of the items indicated	Missing 2 of the items indicated	Missing 3 or more of the items indicated	
Paragraph 3	Drawing Conclusions: entails analyzing the reading by making generalizations and judgments. Also compares/contrasts to another reading or make a personal connection to real life	Missing 1 of the items indicated	Missing 2 of the items indicated	Missing 3 or more of the items indicated	
Prewriting Form	Prewriting form is completed sufficiently with all necessary information.	Prewriting form is completed adequately with most necessary information.	Prewriting form incomplete and missing necessary information.	Less than what is required for a 2.	
Grammar/Usage (Capitalization, Usage, Punctuation, Spelling)	No errors in CUPS	1-3 errors in CUPS	4 errors in CUPS	5 or more errors in CUPS	
				Total out of 20	

Stadium School Book Talk Form for NONFICTION/ARTICLES

Student Name _____ Date _____ Title and Author _____

of pages (nonfiction) _____ #of book review credits? _____

Or # of paragraphs (articles) _____

Understanding Content

To help show your understanding of the content of this book, fill out the information below as you are reading.

Summary of the book/article

WHO and/or WHAT is it about? (CHALLENGE: Try to do this in 20 words or less.)

WHEN and WHERE does it take place?

List at least three facts you learned about this topic.

Understanding Main Idea

Use the graphic organizer below to help you explain the **main idea** of this passage. Remember, the main idea is what a passage is about. Sometimes, the main idea is stated in the topic sentence to let you know what the passage will be about. Sometimes, the main idea is at the end of the passage, and it sums up the information in the passage. Other times, the main idea is not stated in words; it is implied. You must use the details provided in the passage to determine what the main idea of the passage is.

<u>MAIN IDEA</u>			
DETAIL:	DETAIL:	DETAIL:	DETAIL: