**Robinson Elementary School**

**Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl Book Club**

**& Reading Bowl Team**

*“Several Years ago Mrs. Helen Ruffin, a very dynamic and innovative person was the library media specialist at Sky Haven Elementary School in DeKalb County, Georgia. In 1985, she served on the selection committee for the Georgia Children’s Book Award nominee program. This literature program began in the Department of Language Education at the University of Georgia’s College of Education. This literature program inspired her to use the nominee books to encourage her students to read.*

*Mrs. Ruffin created a unique reading competition in game format using the award nominees. It was called the Reading Bowl. Her vision was to have teams comprised of students from different schools compete to test their knowledge of the selected books. She shared this vision with her colleagues. They embraced her idea and pressed forward. Today, the Georgia Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl is open to students in grades four through twelve across the state. The winning teams from the Divisional Bowls meet at the Annual Conference on Children’s Literature in March for the State Championship of the Georgia Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl.”*

- Retrieved from <http://www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/hrrb/> on August 5, 2014

The Reading Bowl Book Club is available for all 4th and 5th grade students who are interested in being on the Reading Bowl Team. Each book club member will be required to read at least 4 of the 17 Georgia Book Award Nominees and meet after school in the media center one day a week to discuss books and practice for the reading bowl in order to be eligible for the Reading Bowl Team. **We will meet Thursdays after school from 2:45 – 3:30 in the media center to discuss the books on the reading list.** Our first after school meting will be on Thursday, October 20. In December, the students will begin competing against each other to determine which 10 students will be on the Reading Bowl Team.

After the Reading Bowl Team members have been selected, the students on the team will continue to meet on Thursday afternoons in the media center. If a student is chosen to be on the RES team they will need to be committed to the reading bowl and represent RES with P.R.I.D.E.

Any 4th or 5th grade students who are interested should return the bottom portion of this sheet to Mrs. Madsen in the Media Center by **Monday, October 17**. All students who return the signed form will need to attend an informational meeting during their recess time on Monday, October 17. After this meeting students will be able to decide if they are willing to commit to the RES Helen Ruffing Reading Bowl Club and Team. This will be a challenging competition and may not be for everyone. Please think hard about whether or not you want to compete and put forth the time and effort to be a reliable part of our team.

**Dates to remember:**

Monday, October 17 – Permission slip due to Mrs. Madsen

Monday, October 17 during recess – Reading Bowl information meeting in the media center

Thursday, October 20 – Reading Bowl meeting after school from 2:45 - 3:30

Mrs. Madsen

Media Specialist

[rmadsen@dawson.k12.ga.us](mailto:rmadsen@dawson.k12.ga.us)

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**Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl - Return to Mrs. Madsen by Monday, October 17.**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_