

**Title I Family and Parent Partnership Project**  
**The Kansas Parent Information Resource Center (KPIRC)**  
**Ruth Clark Elementary School**  
**Mid-Year Report**  
**December 23, 2009**

**General Narrative**

Jagbucks Nights was designed to promote parent involvement with fourth grade students' reading motivation and skills in a *Starbucks* atmosphere. As classical music was playing, parents and students were met at the door by the fourth grade teachers, Title teacher, and principal. The staff members were wearing green aprons printed with "Jagbucks" on the front – similar to *Starbucks* aprons. Then, the parents and students were offered gourmet coffee and hot chocolate drinks – similar to *Starbucks*. The students, in particular, enjoyed the atmosphere with the staff members "playing store" and serving beverages. The staff greeted their guests with the statement, "Welcome to Jagbucks. May we interest you in a hot gourmet beverage?"

After receiving the hot beverages, the students and their parents spent time in the library with the media specialist and aide. Parents enjoyed selecting books with their children to read and observe their children take Accelerated Reader tests.

Two more Jagbucks nights are scheduled for the 2009-2010 school year.

**Information from Fourth Grade and Title Teachers**

"Jagbucks" was an evening well spent. As a teacher, it was very rewarding to watch students eagerly select books from our Ruth Clark library to read with their parents. Students were then excited to share their knowledge of Accelerated Reader test-taking skills. Parents attending "Jagbucks" were very attentive to their student(s) and expressed their appreciation for this opportunity. ~*Laverne Miller, Fourth Grade Teacher*

The students were filled with excitement, anticipating the first Jagbucks night at Ruth Clark Elementary. Several staff greeted the students and their guardians at the door. They were excited to choose a hot drink and share with their special guest. The students led their guest into the library to share a book, warm drink, and special time.

The parents/guardians thought the idea was very fun and educational. They liked being able to spend that one on one time with their child in a positive way. Many adults shared that Jagbucks would be a great idea for the whole school, not just fourth grade.

Personally, I felt the students felt special participating in the activity just for fourth graders. It made the students realize that reading is a part of not only school, but their parents' lives as well. I look forward to the next Jagbucks night and hope we continue having many students participate, perhaps some of those who were unable to come the first night. ~*Kathy Schaller, Fourth Grade Teacher*

Jagbucks provided a quiet time for our students' parents to listen and enjoy their kids' reading. The best part was seeing the students sitting with their parents, some parents just listening, some parents reading their own books, and some parents reading to their children. One parent said that this time was one-on-one time with her daughter. Because of their family's busy schedule, she didn't always have the time to spend with just her and her daughter. Not only were we promoting reading, but also family time. ~*Emily Chandler, Fourth Grade Teacher*

Watching busy parents taking time to enjoy listening to their student read was a lasting memory. Having students engaged in reading and being proud of their accomplishments, gave them the opportunity to SHINE for their parents. The evening as a WIN, WIN for all involved!! ~*Peggy Johnston, Title Teacher*

### **Immediate Plans**

Due to the high success of our first Jagbucks night, the staff will repeat procedures.

### **Appreciation**

The Ruth Clark fourth grade teachers and principal are deeply appreciative of the KPIRC funding. The funding allowed our staff to implement a strategy that normally could not be provided for with the building budget.

### **Data**

First JagBucks Night:

Sixteen parents and sixteen students attended.