Forsyth County Reading Association Meeting

Thursday, February 21, 2019 4:30 pm

Redeemer Church—Room 110

Members enjoyed a pizza and salad dinner provided by BJ’s Brewhouse.

Janice Lievens began the formal meeting at 5:00 pm.

* She reminded everyone that the speaker for our March meeting will be media coordinator Deb Fidali, who will be talking about the North Carolina Book Awards books.
* At the beginning of our April meeting, we will celebrate the students who were Young Authors winners from Forsyth County.

Janice updated everyone about the Young Authors writing submissions.

* 40 entries were submitted to our council, and 22 were sent to the state level.
* 7 winners from Forsyth County were chosen at the state level. These entries will be published in a book of state winners.

Janice thanked BJ’s again for the food and reminded everyone again to sign up to receive BJ’s Awesome

 Achievement certificates for their students. These can be used for to-go meals as well as for dine-in ones.

 The link is <https://www.bjsrestaurants.com/community/kids-and-families/awesome-achievement>.

 She has simplified directions printed out for anyone who needs them.

 BJ’s has been extremely generous in donating our meals, so we want to support them.

Jeannie Evans provided the Secretary’s Report from our last meeting. It will be posted on the FCRA webpage.

Cheryl Key provided the Treasurer’s Report.

 Our starting balance for February was $1036.72, and the ending balance was $975.74.

Cheryl Key introduced our speakers, Joe Lineberry and Rachel Rogers, local authors of “The Gift of Numbers”

 series of math fantasy books.

Joe and Rachel presented their talk on “Using the 3 Rs (+1) to Teach Math”

 They have written 7 books in the series.

The first 4 books correlate with the 2nd grade math curriculum.

The last 3 books correlate with the 3rd grade math curriculum.

Novant donated the first two titles, Saved by Addition and Surprised by Subtraction to each 2nd

grade classroom in WSFCS.

 They are working to get other sponsors (Delta Dental & others) to sponsor other distributions.

 They shared how both students and teachers are responding enthusiastically to these stories.

 Some of the key points they shared about using these books in the classroom were:

1. The books were written at about a 4th grade reading level for a teacher to read aloud to a class.
2. The books address skills of calculation/arithmetic, interpretation/reading, writing, and speaking (the 3 Rs + 1) about math.
3. They stressed the importance of helping students build math-related vocabulary. This is done in the context of the stories.
4. Students can use math journals to write about what they know and don’t know in trying to solve math problems and what they can do to figure out solutions.
5. Students can talk about their math thinking (what they write about) so they can better understand the process and learn from others.
6. The books also incorporate healthy habits and character building, so these topics could be discussed.

They read aloud Saved by Addition and Surprised by Subtraction and received feedback from FCRA

 members about the books’ strengths and ideas about how they could be enhanced and used in the

 classroom in a variety of ways—such as having students develop songs about the number concepts,

 writing what might happen next, making their own number stories, etc.

Janice mentioned that March Book Madness materials can be found online to encourage students to read a

variety of books and vote for their favorites with narrowed brackets being generated each week..

The meeting ended with the distribution of door prizes—including a copy of Saved by Addition.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannie Evans, Secretary