

To:School Administrators and TeachersFrom:Dr. Katie Tonore, Founder and PresidentDate:2012Subject:A Proposal for *Books with Friends* Intervention Program

Purpose:

The purpose of this proposal is to offer to your district a unique and successful reading intervention program for students in grades 3-12. *Books with Friends* is an intervention program for *developing*, *dormant*, and *underground* readers.

Problem:

Books with Friends was created because as I go from school to school, I am not seeing sufficient student growth after time spent in their various intervention programs. I am convinced that students are not receiving sufficient time in guided reading with their teacher nor or they reading enough independently. Most intervention programs seem to be computer-based instead of realizing the effectiveness of having a teacher to guide, model and respond to texts.

Solution:

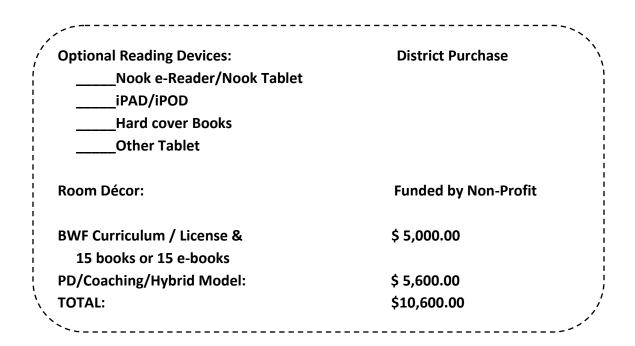
Books with Friends is the only intervention program that can be used for struggling and proficient readers at the same time. In a typical *Books with Friends* classroom the teacher teaches 6 classes of BWF; 4 classes are for struggling readers and 2 classes are reserved for those proficient students close to becoming advanced. Students read high-interest books on their instructional level along with the support and guidance of their teacher. If available, BWF books and the curriculum are downloaded on e-readers/tablets in e-book format. The BWF classroom is non-traditional in that décor is similar to Barnes & Noble and Starbucks. Students in BWF become highly motivated to read as they become more and more engaged in critically thinking their way through texts.

Books with Friends utilizes a Hybrid Model to provide customized trainings, coaching, modeling and support throughout the year. The Hybrid Model allows for 2 days of training and coaching up front followed by podcasts, forums, blackboard assignments (CEU option) and live online support. The remaining 2 days are scheduled throughout the year with the BWF teachers.

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Costs:

- 1: Professional Development and Coaching:
 - 4 days required
 - \circ 1 day of PD (lesson plan, routines) and classroom preparation
 - 3 days of side-by-side coaching
 - Teachers will be enrolled in an online forum for further support and camaraderie
- 2: Books with Friends Curriculum: The following prices are based on 1 BWF teacher in 1 school with 15 books downloaded (up to 6 classes). Prices may vary depending on how many grade levels and schools are implementing BWF. E-readers/tablets are purchased separately and can be purchased directly from Barnes & Noble at app \$249 per NOOK Tablet or \$199 per NOOK e-Reader.





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