



What is Authors in April?

The Musson PTA is proud to once again participate in the nationally recognized Authors In April, Inc. program. Unique to Rochester, this non-profit organization is in its 35th year bringing renowned authors/illustrators and their books to the students and families of our community.

One author is chosen for grades K-1, 2-3, 4-5 and Middle School. Author information and book descriptions are available on the Musson webpage under PTA, Authors in April. Beginning in October, the students are immersed in their grade level author's books by listening to them during Media Center time, creating artwork based on the books in Art Class, hearing parent readers come to the classroom to share the stories and being able to purchase the author's books and have them personally autographed. Students have the opportunity to enter contests to create bookmarks and introduce and thank the author and give them a tour of the school on visit day. All of this leads up to **Thursday, April 26th** when the authors visit Musson and have amazing, interactive presentations with the students.

On that day, students hold a pep rally in the loop to greet the author and lead them into the school. Contest winners show them around a school plastered with artwork and tour each classroom door decorated with a theme from one of their books. The excitement around school is contagious and it all centers around fostering a love of reading and writing in our students. The Authors tell the students how they became inspired to write, what the writing process is like and, if they are also an illustrator, draw one of their famous characters right in front of the student's eyes that will remain with the school always.

There are MANY ways for parents *and* students to become involved with Authors in April. Volunteer opportunities for many different activities are available by contacting Betsy Seymour at bdseymour@comcast.net. Students will be able to purchase books beginning in February and contests begin in March and will be announced at school. Each book purchased benefits the Musson PTA.

To purchase books:

- **Order forms:** Forms come home on Friday, February 23rd. Simply complete the form, include payment and return it to school. Book orders are processed immediately and books are delivered at the end of the day on Tuesdays and Fridays directly to your student. Book sales run through April 17th.
- **Books and Bagels:** Friday, March 2nd from 7:45 – 8:45 am in the Media Center. Bagels are available for purchase for \$1 from the 5th grade. Complimentary coffee, water, pastries, fruit and more are available to everyone. All books will be on display and are available for purchase. It's a great morning to have breakfast with your kids and see the books up close.

To have a book signed: Return books with completed autograph slips (included in purchased books) to the classroom by Tuesday, April 17th. Books will be returned to the classroom on Wednesday, May 2nd.

If you have any questions about the AIA program, please contact any of the 2017-2018 Chairs.

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