

PARKWAY ELEMENTARY READ-A-THON

Parent FAQ | September 23 - October 8, 2026

READING determines the prizes - NOT money raised.
Reading is tracked on the PAPER reading log. 99Pledges is used ONLY for donations.

THE BASICS

What is the Read-A-Thon?

The Read-A-Thon is a two-week reading challenge and optional PTO fundraiser. Students are encouraged to read as much as they can from **September 23 through October 8**, while families and friends may support Parkway through each student's personalized 99Pledges page.

Is participation required?

No. Participation is optional. Students may take part in the reading challenge without fundraising, and families may use the fundraising page without participating in the reading challenge.

What is Parkway's fundraising goal?

Our schoolwide goal is **\$6,000**. Each student's 99Pledges page may show a suggested individual fundraising goal, but there is **no required amount** a student or family must raise.

What do Read-A-Thon donations support?

Donations support PTO-funded programs, activities, events, and enrichment opportunities for Parkway students throughout the school year.

READING & TRACKING MINUTES

What counts as reading?

Independent reading counts, **being read to counts** (especially for our younger Panthers), and reading completed at school counts. If your child's class already uses a regular reading log, those reading minutes count too.

How do we track reading minutes?

Students will receive a **paper reading tracker from their teacher**. Keep track of actual reading time throughout the Read-A-Thon. For every **15 cumulative minutes** read, color one space object on the tracker.

Does reading have to happen in 15-minute blocks?

No. Track the actual minutes. If your child reads for 7 minutes, keep those 7 minutes. After another 8 minutes of reading, they have reached 15 cumulative minutes and may color one object.

Does my child need to fill the entire reading tracker?

No! There is no required number of minutes and students do not need to complete the entire tracker. The tracker provides space for up to **750 minutes**. Simply record the reading your child actually completes.

What if the reading tracker is lost or damaged?

Please contact your child's teacher for a replacement.

What if my child actually reads more than 750 minutes?

That's a lot of reading - congratulations! Please contact your child's teacher for an additional tracker.

TURNING IN THE READING LOG

How and when do I turn in my child's reading log?

A **PHYSICAL COPY** of the reading log must be turned in to your child's teacher by **Thursday, October 8** to count toward Read-A-Thon prizes.

Can I email, text, upload, or send a photo of the reading log?

No. Photos, screenshots, emailed copies, texted copies, and other electronic submissions cannot be accepted. The physical paper log must be turned in to the teacher.

Can we turn the log in late?

No. Late logs cannot be accepted. Individual classroom winners receive a free book from the Book Fair. The Book Fair closes and leaves Parkway on **Friday, October 9**, so winners must be determined immediately after the October 8 deadline.

PRIZES & HOW WINNERS ARE DETERMINED

Are prizes based on money raised?

No. Fundraising has no effect on Read-A-Thon prizes. A student who raises \$0 is just as eligible for a reading prize as a student who raises \$500. **Reading minutes determine the prizes.**

What are the prizes?

Top Reader in Each Class: The student with the most total reading minutes in each classroom receives a **free book of their choice from the Book Fair.**

Top Class in Each Grade: The class with the most total reading minutes within each grade earns a **Free Choice Day during a library period**, coordinated by Mrs. Kane.

Top Grade Overall: The grade level with the most total reading minutes earns **extra recess**, with the date determined by Mr. Conti.

Are class and grade winners based on averages?

No. Winners are based on **actual total minutes**, not averages. Every minute a student reads contributes to the student's individual total, the classroom's total, and the grade level's total.

How are reading minutes verified?

Reading minutes are reported on an honor system. We ask families to track reading time accurately and use their best judgment.

99PLEDGES & FUNDRAISING

What is 99Pledges used for?

99Pledges is used **only to collect and track monetary donations**. Reading minutes are not entered into 99Pledges.

Do I have to use or share my child's 99Pledges page?

No. Fundraising is completely optional. Every family will receive a personalized page, but you are not required to use or share it. Donations are greatly appreciated and help the PTO provide programs, activities, and special experiences for Parkway students. Fundraising does not affect participation or eligibility for reading prizes.

How do donations work?

Donations are **one-time monetary contributions** - they are not charged per minute, page, or book read. Parents, grandparents, relatives, friends, and other supporters may donate through the student's personalized page.

Does my child have to raise the suggested amount shown on the page?

No. The amount shown is a suggested fundraising goal only. Every donation helps, but there is no required fundraising amount and no fundraising prize.

I have more than one child at Parkway. Does each child have a page?

Yes. Each Parkway student has an individual 99Pledges profile and personalized fundraising page.

If someone donates to one sibling's page, does it count for the other sibling?

The donation is recorded on the page where it was made, but all donations support Parkway. Because fundraising totals do **not** determine Read-A-Thon prizes, this does not affect the reading competition.

99PLEDGES EMAILS & ACCESS

Where will my child's 99Pledges invitation be sent?

The invitation is sent to the **email address on file from when you registered your student with the school**. This may not be the email address you currently use most often.

I didn't receive my child's 99Pledges email. What should I do?

First, check your spam or junk folder. If you still do not see it - or you believe it may have been sent to a different email address - click the **Contact Us** button at the top of the PTO website. We can update the email address associated with your child's page and resend the invitation.

Can two parents/guardians receive the 99Pledges information?

Yes. Up to **two email addresses** can be associated with each student's 99Pledges profile. To add or change an email address, use the **Contact Us** button at the top of the PTO website and include the student's name and the email address you would like added.

THE THREE THINGS TO REMEMBER:

1. Track actual reading minutes on the PAPER log.
2. Fundraising through 99Pledges is **OPTIONAL** and does not affect prizes.
3. The **PHYSICAL** reading log must be turned in to the teacher by **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8.**