

# READ-A-THON 2021

9 EPIC DAYS of reading: **Saturday, May 8 to Sunday, May 16**

## Student & Parent Guide



### WHAT IS THE READ-A-THON?

This school-wide event shines a spotlight on reading by providing an opportunity for students and their families to focus on books and reading together. The Read-A-Thon is also a great fundraiser for Washington! A portion of the funds raised will go directly to each of our amazing teachers for supplies, books, and other classroom needs. The remaining funds go into the PTA general fund, which pays for school-wide needs like PE, art enrichment, counseling services, and restorative justice.

The Read-A-Thon is for **ALL STUDENTS** at Washington (in-person and distance learning).

### HOW DOES IT WORK?

1. Students ask sponsors to support their reading by pledging a fixed \$ amount OR per minute amount.
2. From **Saturday, May 8 to Sunday, May 16** students and families **READ, READ, READ!**
3. Students track time reading (or being read to or listening to an audiobook) on their Reading Log.
4. Students collect their pledges:
  - **Cash:** We'll take it! (Deliver to teachers, please do not mail cash)
  - **Checks:** Make checks payable to: Washington PTA. Washington PTA is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization (tax ID # is **94-6174706**).
  - **Online Payment Options:** (Please choose this option if most convenient but note that a percentage of the donation goes to PayPal.) **Through our PTA website:**  
<https://www.washington.berkeleyppta.org/read-a-thon> Click on the donate link.
5. Pledges and the reading log/pledge envelope are **returned to teachers** OR **email your child's name, teacher, and the total number of minutes to [wapta.fundraising@gmail.com](mailto:wapta.fundraising@gmail.com)** and **mail the checks to school at 2300 Martin Luther King Jr Way, Berkeley, CA 94704 by **Wednesday, May 26.****

### WHAT IS OUR SCHOOL-WIDE GOAL?

**READING GOAL:** Our 2021 school-wide goal is to read a combined total of 250,000 minutes!!

**FUNDRAISING GOAL:** We hope every student can raise at least \$85 from their sponsors. Sponsors can include grandparents, neighbors, your parents' Facebook Friends, your piano teacher, or even yourself!

### HOW CAN PARENTS & CAREGIVERS CAN HELP?

**Help Set a Goal:** Talk with your children about setting a goal for how many minutes they will read during the Read-a-Thon. This is a good time to motivate your readers to read more often, choose different kinds of books, and consider reading more challenging books.

**Make the Read-a-Thon Fun for the Whole Family:** Make a poster where family members can write down their favorite books, host a family or friends book club, or plan an extra trip to the library

**Remind Your Reader to Track Their Minutes:** This is often the most difficult part!

### WHAT ARE THE PRIZES?

**Minutes Read - Student:** the top three students per grade who read the most minutes will win a gift card!

**Participation - Classroom:** The class with the highest participation rate will celebrate with a special whole-class prize. (Participation = turning in reading logs--**no fundraising required**.) All classes with 100% participation will have a prize.