



## BARBARA PARK MEMORIAL LITERACY GRANT PROGRAM

*Richard Park, in memorial to Barbara Park, will award 50 grants of \$500 each to schools who meet the criteria and submit a completed application by the stated deadline.*

**We are pleased to invite all ARIZONA schools to apply for the Barbara Park Memorial Literacy Grant program!**



**Mission Statement:** To award grants up to \$25,000 per year to support and promote literacy and joy of reading in elementary schools through grant funding, courtesy of Barbara and Richard Park.

*"A little glitter can turn your whole day around." -Barbara Park*

### **How To Submit This One Page Online Application:**

Applications must be submitted by email to [ParkGrant@gsbooks.com](mailto:ParkGrant@gsbooks.com) or can be mailed or hand delivered to BARBARA PARK MEMORIAL LITERACY GRANT PROGRAM c/o GBS Books, 2321 W Royal Palm Rd, Suite F Phoenix, AZ 85021. Application must be received by 5:00pm, Friday, February 23rd, 2024. No exceptions.

### Criteria To Qualify:

1. School must have a functioning library
2. Applicant must be employed by the school
3. School in K-8 range (i.e. K-3, 4-8, K-8, 6-8)
4. School must meet or exceed 50% eligible for free or reduced-price lunch program according to the latest Arizona Department of Education Health and Nutrition Services (ADEHN) report or by district confirmation.
5. **School must be located in Arizona.**
6. School Enrollment must exceed 300 according to the latest ADEHN report.
7. School-wide access (grant books must be available to all students).
8. School cannot win a grant two years in a row.

***FIFTY GRANTS WILL BE AWARDED!***



## BARBARA PARK MEMORIAL LITERACY GRANT PROGRAM

### Official Application Page

Name of Person  
Submitting this application:

Your School Email Address:

Your Home Email Address:

School:

District:

Grade/Specialty (if teacher):

School Address (including city/zip):

Home Address (including city/zip):

Enrollment:                      Percent free or reduced lunch:                      %

1. Provide description of how books will be used to support literacy and the joy of reading throughout the school **in 50 words or fewer**.

2. Provide person, position and contact information of authorized purchaser.

3. Include a current photo of your school library (if emailing please attached a jpg or pdf file).

## **Award Process**

1. Qualified applicants will be entered into a random drawing with award recipients to be drawn by March 7th, 2024.
2. Up to 50 (fifty) grants of \$500 each will be available at drawing (one grant per school).
3. Grants monies will go on account for the school at GBS Books (Gardner's Book Service).
4. Grant monies must be spent to purchase fiction and nonfiction books, excluding professional development, manipulatives, workbooks, videos, textbooks and library processing, at GBS Books (Gardner's Book Service). No Classroom Sets.
5. Grant monies not encumbered by June 30th, 2024 will be offered to alternate qualified applicants.

GBS Books (Gardner's Book Service) is honored to partner with the BARBARA PARK MEMORIAL LITERACY GRANT PROGRAM.

### *About our friend and author Barbara Park:*

*Barbara Park was best-known as the creator and author of the New York Times bestselling Junie B. Jones series, the stories of an outrageously funny kindergartner that have kept kids (and their grownups) laughing—and reading—for over two decades. The series was consistently a #1 New York Times bestseller, spending over 180 weeks on the list, and Barbara and her books were profiled in such national outlets as Time, Newsweek, USA Today, the New York Times, and Today. Barbara Park arrived at the writing profession through an indirect route. Before becoming a bestselling and beloved children's author, she originally intended to teach high school history and political science. She got her secondary education degree but quickly realized that her calling was to be a writer. After several rejections, Alfred A. Knopf Books for Young Readers acquired her first manuscript, Operation: Dump the Chump and two others. Don't Make Me Smile was published first in 1981, followed by Operation: Dump the Chump (1982) and Skinnybones (1982). She went on to write over 50 books, from the picture book Ma! There's Nothing to Do Here!, a love letter to her grandson, to middle grade novels such as Skinnybones, The Kid in the Red Jacket, Mick Harte Was Here, and The Graduation of Jake Moon. Barbara won more than 40 children's book awards, including several Children's Choice Awards. Barbara Park was born in Mount Holly, New Jersey, on April 21, 1947, and spent most of her adult life in Arizona. There she, with her husband, Richard, raised her two sons and spent time with her two young grandsons. Park died on November 15, 2013 after fighting ovarian cancer heroically for seven and a half years.*