



Rotary District 7910

Service Project Description

- Project date
 - May 2021
- Project name
 - Diversity Book Fair
- Avenues of Service covered
 - Supporting Education, Promoting Peace
- Hands on or funding only?
 - Both. Requires some effort to coordinate with the schools
- Project description including whether it is local or international and how long to complete
 - The goal is that every child should be able to see themselves in the books they read at school. The online book fair allows parents and the community to purchase books for the elementary school classrooms and the school libraries. These books are written by and/or about minority populations.
- Who and how many people benefit?
 - The children in the schools will all benefit from reading a more diverse set of books in the classroom.
- Project budget
 - We agreed to give each school \$500 to be spent on books for classes that got less participation than others. With seven elementary schools, that was \$3500. We were able to get \$2600 in sponsorships to bring the club's investment down to \$900.
- Club member activities in support of this project
 - We used the bookstore e-commerce site and created accounts for each teacher. We then created gift registries for each teacher. Then for the public schools we added a default set of books to each class. This took some time to complete and we had a team of 6 people working on it. I also had help from a friend, who knows how to do web development, to create a website that was the front door of the Diversity Book Fair (www.DiversityBookFair.com). From there, we had links to all the teacher gift registries to make it easy for the parents to buy the books.
- Will the project require ongoing involvement? If so, how is this going to be handled?
 - The project for Needham doesn't need ongoing involvement. We may decide to do another similar event in the future but for now it is done.
- What partnerships are important to the success of this project?

- The partnership with the Frugal Bookstore was instrumental. In addition, the Parent Teacher Councils and the Superintendent's office were very helpful in getting the word out.
- Who is the project leader?
 - Bill Paulson, Rotary Club of Needham, 781-929-2453. Happy to help other clubs do this for their community.