

# District Dictionary Project

Paul Brenner, District Dictionary Project

Each year, our District Governor promotes a single district-wide project that benefits young children. It is a unique effort that is undertaken by every club in addition to their regular activities.

Nebraska-Iowa District Governor Mark Holmer has chosen The Dictionary Project for this year. The goal is to provide a dictionary to every 3rd grader. Please go to [www.dictionaryproject.org](http://www.dictionaryproject.org) for background, plus all the info needed to implement Governor Mark's program.

Basically, hardly any project could be simpler. Contact the school superintendent to determine how many 3rd graders there are in the school. You will also need their names to put on labels inside the dictionaries. Select one of the six dictionaries available through the Web site, and order them. Prices range from \$1.25 to \$2 per book, and shipping is included. Prepare the labels, put them in the dictionaries, and have members go to the school to distribute them. See the Web site for ideas and support for every step along the way.

It is unbelievable how excited the kids are when they receive their dictionaries. You and your fellow members will most likely decide on the spot that the next year's batch of 3rd graders deserve the same encouragement from you to read, to understand, and to learn. The cost is minimal, the return is fantastic!

Ideally, the kids may benefit more if they have their dictionaries as early in the 2007-2008 school year as possible. They will use these dictionaries for years to come. And, the Kiwanis logo is on every label to remind them (and their parents) of your Club's efforts for young children.

There are a few Kiwanis clubs that have already done this project in the past. For those communities with more than one Kiwanis club, I'd suggest one club handle the local school district, and the other club(s) adopt a school in a town with no Kiwanis club.

For example, the Spencer Daybreakers provided dictionaries this past school year to all 3rd graders in the Spencer School District, plus the two parochial schools, and grade-equivalent home-schooled kids. (By the way, the total cost was only \$288.40.) Now, all the clubs in Division 3 have signed on to the goal of providing dictionaries to every 3rd grader in the four-county area served by the division.

Please advise the Lt. Governor of your division when you have completed the project so he or she can report your participation to the District Office and the Governor. Thank you.

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Maybe in years to come, the Nebraska-Iowa District will be sponsoring a spelling bee...

## Dictionaries for 3rd Graders

Spencer Daybreakers Kiwanis members are shown below in their first distribution of Dictionaries for 3rd Graders this year. Governor Mark Holmer assisted.



*Back row from left: Stan Schoelerman, teacher, student, Becky DePauw, Scott Meier, and Governor Mark.*