



The Public Education Foundation

Because young minds matter

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Clark County READS Celebrates 100th Library Enhancement

More than 21,000 Books Added to CCSD Libraries Due to Wells Fargo Decade-long Support

LAS VEGAS (October 10, 2011) – Clark County READS, The Public Education Foundation’s literacy initiative, will update its 100th public school library on October 13 thanks to a generous donation from Wells Fargo. Approximately 850 new nonfiction books will replace outdated books in the Walter Johnson Junior High School library.

To recognize this significant milestone, an hour-long celebration will be held inside Johnson’s library on **Thursday, October 13 at 10 a.m.** Johnson Junior High is located at 7701 Ducharme Avenue in Las Vegas.

Since the Clark County READS Library Enhancement Program began in 2001, Wells Fargo has contributed \$345,000 to the Foundation to update 26 Clark County School District libraries. Through Wells Fargo support, more than 21,000 nonfiction books have been placed in these school libraries.

Wells Fargo donated \$7,500 to the Foundation for the Johnson Junior High library project, which was matched by the Foundation. The Clark County READS Library Enhancement Program utilizes donations from various businesses and organizations to update resources for students in Clark County School District (CCSD) libraries.

“We applaud Wells Fargo’s leadership and are grateful for their decade-long commitment to ensuring our students have the resources they need,” said Judi Steele, president of the Foundation. “Wells Fargo is a wonderful example of how public-private partnerships make a tremendous difference in our schools. The company’s dedication to updating school libraries has impacted the lives of tens of thousands of students over the years and will continue to influence student achievement for many years to come.”

Prior to ordering books for a library, Clark County READS and the Foundation perform an analysis of the library’s collection to determine which new nonfiction books will have the greatest impact on the library and its students and which outdated nonfiction books will be removed. The average copyright date of Johnson’s nonfiction collection was 1994 before the donation.

(more)



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100th Library Celebration/2

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Since Clark County READS was established in 2001, almost \$1.4 million worth of new nonfiction books have been placed in 100 CCSD libraries. This translates into more than 83,000 new nonfiction books, benefiting more than 85,000 students annually. Clark County READS manages seven literacy programs, all providing quality literacy programs to children and families in Clark County.

About Clark County READS

Clark County READS is the literacy initiative of The Public Education Foundation. Clark County READS was launched in 2001 to improve student achievement by recruiting volunteer reading partners and providing books to schools and their students. Clark County READS' programs include Reading Is Fundamental, Reach Out and Read, Reading Partner Program, Library Enhancement, Book Re-Use and Reading Buddy Book Club. For more information about Clark County READS, call 799-KIDS (5437).

About The Public Education Foundation

The Public Education Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to mobilizing community and global resources to meet the challenges of educating a growing and diverse Southern Nevada population. The Foundation's programs and initiatives are designed to improve student performance and advance quality educational opportunities for all children. Since 1991, the Foundation has raised more than \$75 million to improve teaching and learning in Southern Nevada's public schools. For more information about the Foundation, go to www.thepef.org.

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