



NEWS

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New Books Selected for District 64 Schools with \$4,500 Special Gift

Biographies of past notables such as Abigail Adams and John Muir and of contemporary figures such as Bill Gates and J.K. Rowling form the heart of a new collection of 248 books Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 students may now explore through a special gift created by the Elementary Learning Foundation (ELF) in honor of former Superintendent Sally Pryor.

On her retirement last spring, Dr. Pryor requested that in lieu of a personal gift, donations be made to ELF to purchase literature that students could enjoy for years to come. In all, ELF received donations totaling \$4,500 from all the school PTO/A's; individuals; and a portion of each May 6 retirement reception ticket.

Learning Resource Center directors this fall ordered materials specifically for their school collections to meet students' reading levels, information needs and personal interests.

At the elementary and middle schools, biographies of both men and women were selected to inspire students to follow their examples of courage, determination, honesty and willingness to work. Positive role models include: presidents, other American patriots, world leaders, inventors, scientists, physicians, athletes, civil rights leaders, composers and artists. Both historical and contemporary figures are represented.

"These books will provide a way for students to personalize history, to discover the motivation behind some interesting people and perhaps awaken a new interest or passion," according to Jackie Phillips, the District's Media Services Curriculum Specialist.

For Jefferson Early Childhood Center, age-appropriate books were selected to help fulfill students' curiosity about nature and the world around them.

Each item has a special bookplate identifying it as part of this special collection: "ELF special gift in honor of Dr. Sally Pryor, Superintendent 2003-2010, given on her retirement in recognition of her love of literature."

"Thank you to all who supported ELF to honor Dr. Pryor and benefit our students for years to come in this distinctive way," new Superintendent Philip Bender added.

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