

**Dear Dondero Faculty, Families and Community Members,**

We are ready to begin preparing for another wonderful month of celebrating literacy at Dondero School. Here is an overview of the theme, events/activities and ways you can help.

**THEME:**                    **Celebrate the “Gift” of Reading!**

- What would our lives be like without books?
- How has reading enriched your life?
- Imagine people and places where books and learning to read is not available...What would that feel like?
- How can we share and give back?

**KICK-OFF:**                **All School Assembly**

- Video clip of a community where schools and books are just becoming available
- Send-off clip of Florida flash mob singing “Gonna Read...”

**LITERACY NIGHT: THURSDAY, MARCH 29<sup>TH</sup>**

**6:00 PM to 7:30 PM**

Plans are in the making to invite students, families and community members to:

- Visit children and their teachers in their classrooms where children will share their reading in a variety of ways, possibilities include: sharing how reading has enriched their lives, watching a Readers’ Theatre performance, sharing about a favorite author or book and/or hearing books read aloud from various genres
- Receive a trade book to take home for your home library
- Donate a book for our community book drive to bring books to hospitals, shelters and places of need
- View a power-point presentation high-lighting our month-long celebration of literacy
- Stroll throughout the school to ‘read’ and view bulletin boards displaying pictures and projects involving students and reading
- A culminating activity will possibly take place in the cafeteria

**MONTH-LONG INTERACTIONS TO SELECT FROM THAT SUPPORT THE THEME:**

- A mystery faculty reader (who has been featured on the foyer bulletin board) will *briefly* read from a favorite children’s book (poetry, nonfiction or fiction) over the intercom every Monday-Wednesday-Friday morning. Children will place their guesses in boxes on the bulletin board to be revealed at the end of the month or week (still working specifics out on this one).

- Hallway bulletin boards will feature student work such as: what I learned in my reading, book recommendations, favorite author(s), inter-active guess-who favorite book, photos of students and faculty reading with captions created by students, vocabulary words learned in reading, quotes about reading etc.
- Seacoast Rotary Club and other community members will volunteer to read to classes *during read aloud* or will join classes *during reading workshop* to *read with* children, *listen to* children read, or to *read to* children. Stephanie Lazenby will be the parent contact to schedule these visits.
- Vocabulary words learned in reading will be shared in various ways
- Students will interview a family member about their reading and share with their classmates
- The possibility of an author visit is being considered if there is someone who can make this happen

#### **HOW YOU CAN HELP/NEEDS:**

- Help weeding out books in storage closet and school library to donate to Dondero students and communities in need
- Help develop a list/basket of books that connect with the theme to be read aloud and shared with students
- Help communicating theme to families and the community
- Volunteers (2) to photograph students reading and month-long happenings to display on bulletin boards and for the power-point
- Volunteers to help set up/run power-point in cafeteria on Literacy Night
- Volunteers to organize water and (snack?) to share on Literacy Night
- Volunteers to help locate communities, people or places in need of books as well as to arrange for delivery of books
- Volunteers to help create foyer mystery bulletin board including interviewing mystery readers
- Volunteers to read aloud to classrooms (contact Stephanie Lazenby at: [stephlazenby@gmail.com](mailto:stephlazenby@gmail.com))
- Volunteers to listen to children read during reading workshop

**THANK YOU FOR PARTNERING WITH US TO MAKE THIS A MEMORABLE MONTH FOR THE STUDENTS OF DONDERO SCHOOL!**

If you have further questions please contact Susan Mitchell or Susan Avis Reading Specialists at Dondero School.