

## Davis Readathon a Great Success

More than \$28,000 raised to purchase books for individual classroom libraries!

Students, teachers, and parents alike enjoyed an enthusiastic celebration of reading and literacy at the closing ceremonies of the Davis PTA Readathon. The school's more than 750 students were thrilled to learn they read more than one million minutes collectively, and raised over \$28,000 to purchase library books to create individual classroom libraries. The Davis Dolphin also joined in on the closing festivities.

For the Readathon, each child set their own personal reading goal. The students then asked friends and family to sponsor them by making a donation, of any amount, if they reached it. (The school's goal was to have the students read a total of 500,000 minutes. This was well-exceeded with the final amount of reading minutes being over 1,000,000.) The Readathon spanned the month of March.

Principal Galland's own goal for the students was for each of them to assess who there were as readers at the beginning of the month and who they could become by the end. Goals could be the amount read or expanding the types and genres of material read.

In total, 104 medals were given out to the top three readers in each class plus additional prizes such as electronic readers and gift cards. All students received a bookmark for participation. In determining prizes, the grades were split into K-2 and 3-5, so the youngest members of Davis Elementary would not be competing with the oldest.

Now, a Building Committee comprised of teachers, administrators and parents will work alongside Principal Galland in determining what will be purchased. The books will build individual classroom libraries that will have a wide and appropriate band of texts available for students' independent reading.

"We were delighted with the incredible participation from the school, proud of the students and thrilled with the results," said Davis PTA Co-President Ann Marie Nascimento. "We are looking forward to doing it again next year."

Principal Galland expressed his gratitude to the PTA by saying, "I am grateful not just for the PTA's organizational capacity, but also their dedication to finding meaningful ways to partner with our teachers and school."

The Readathon committee Co-Chairs were Amy Bass and Ashley Ranje, who worked closely with the PTA Co-Presidents Kristen Bamberger and Ann Marie Nascimento.

The Davis School PTA extends their thanks to the Ward School PTA for sharing their experiences and expertise with their Readathon. "This is what enabled us to be so successful our first time out," expressed A. Nascimento.