



Lee's Summit Reading Council

of the
INTERNATIONAL READING
ASSOCIATION

Thanks to the generosity of Lee's Summit employees and council members, we were able to again donate hundreds of books to Lee's Summit Social Services for the holidays!

Several baskets of books from this drive along with some additional new books will also be donated this spring to an area family support organization called Community LINC.

Upcoming Events:

Poster Contest:

*Students from each of our schools will have the opportunity to try for an entry into the MSC-IRA annual poster contest.

Community Service:

*Organizational plans are now in progress for a citywide event, "*Lee's Summit Reads*," where all citizens of Lee's Summit will STOP and read. This event will be held March 1, 2011, during our Reading Week.

Young Authors' Conferenc:

*Christine Taylor Butler will be presenting to our district's kindergarten through third grade young author winners on March 22, 2011.

Literacy Award:

*Preparations have begun to select our council's 2011 Literacy Award winner. The award ceremony will be held this spring.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

This year has certainly provided an opportunity for our organization to stay strong as the steady ship in an otherwise stormy economic time. It has been a privilege and an honor to work alongside so many dedicated professionals who help continue to make possible the unbelievable number of literacy-related activities our council sponsors for students and staff.

So far this year we have had the treat of bringing in Judy Young, a Missouri author, to visit with every one of our district's fourth grade students. We have offered free professional development on-site for our members regarding MAP and Writer's Workshop. Additionally, a number of scholarships for staff to attend other workshops have also been granted.

Currently, teams are working to organize several annual literacy programs for our students such as the MSC-IRA poster contest, our Young Authors' Conference, Reading Week, and Lee's Summit Reads. Further support and honors for council members will be provided in the spring as we recognize our 2011 Literacy Award winner and send some people to either the Write to Learn Conference or the International Conference.

Thanks to the efforts of our members, the Lee's Summit Reading Council is not wavering. Our mission to promote literacy is sailing full steam ahead.

"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover." - Mark Twain

Sincerely,
Kerri Draper
President 2010-2011