

DOE NEWS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY • OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS • GOLDEN, CO 80401

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MEDIA ADVISORY

1,725 books to be donated to Munroe Elementary as part of DPS's new literacy program, "1 Million Words Per Year"

In an effort to help improve literacy in Colorado's schools and increase CSAP scores, employees of the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Golden Field Office, Denver Regional Office and National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) will donate 1,725 new and used books to Munroe Elementary. The donation ties in with the Denver Public School District's, "Million Words Campaign", a new literacy program that encourages students to read 1 million words per year. According to a DPS study, fifth grade students who performed in the 90th percentile read 40 minutes a day and 2.3 million words a year. Students at the 50th percentile read 12 minutes or 600,000 words; and students at the 10th percentile, two minutes and 50,000 words.

On **Feb. 28**, employees will deliver and present the books to the school and stay afterward to read to the students.

The donation is a result of a voluntary office-wide book drive among DOE and NREL employees during February to collect books for local schools in need, such as Munroe. Currently, the library has only 2,256 books. The donation will expand the library's resources by more than 80 percent. In the past five years, DOE and NREL have donated some 5,000 books to DPS.

DATE AND TIME: Feb. 28, 1:30 –3 p.m.

WHERE: Munroe Elementary, 3440 W. Virginia Ave., Denver, CO 80219,
Phone - 303-934-5547

WHAT: Presentation of donated books to Munroe Elementary in library.

**(With special guest readers – Bronco Cheerleaders – Katee Doland and
Andrea DiLorenzo)**