



BUCKEYE

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT #33

A community passionate about student success

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November 12, 2019

Rotary Club of Verrado
Buckeye, AZ 85326

Dear Rotary Club of Verrado:

Thank you for supporting literacy instruction at Bales Elementary School this past summer. Your support assisted 60 students to work on their basic reading skills. Below you will find a summary of the completed project.

Project Description: Summer Literacy Program

Location: Buckeye, Arizona

Area of Focus: Literacy Education

Total Budget: \$3000

Program Summary:

Bales Elementary School offered a literacy program in June, 2019, Monday through Thursday. Sixty students, grades first through fourth, and three teachers participated in the summer literacy programs. The goal of the program was to improve students' literacy skills, specifically phonemic awareness, phonics, and reading fluency and comprehension skills. Students were selected using BESD assessment data including Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) and AzMERIT for third and fourth graders. Children who are able to read enjoy school and learning more and are more likely to graduate from high school. Addressing gaps in literacy skills provides a foundation for future success in education and beyond.

The original proposal included offering transportation. After identifying students, transportation was not needed (students selected resided within walking distance of the school). After consulting with the contact from Rotary, transportation funds were moved to provide more curriculum and take home opportunities to students to continue practicing literacy skills throughout the summer.

Cost breakdown:

Literacy curriculum: \$1526.43

Take Home Readers/Fluency Practice: \$1805.00

BESD will provide funding for two (2) teachers: \$4800

BESD will also provide funding for the cost difference between the actual cost of the literacy



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curriculum and take home readers/fluency practice: \$331.43

Bales students who participated in the program showed an average increase in 27 words read with accuracy per minute in the final assessment. This increase in accurate reading allows students to focus more on reading to learn, rather than struggling to decode and understand words. Bales Elementary School and BESD are very thankful for the support of literacy instruction as offered through the Rotary of Verrado's support.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kristi Sandvik, Superintendent