



The Read-Aloud Volunteer Program

9 May, 2006

Mr. Dean O'Hair
Manager, Public Affairs
Richmond Refinery
P. O. Box 1272
Richmond, CA 94802-0272

Dear Mr. O'Hair:

Our sincere thanks for Chevron's recent generous donation of \$3000 in support of our program. We are delighted to be partnered in education and community interaction with Chevron. Your company has been, and continues to be, an active and involved corporate citizen.

The money we've received will allow us to purchase more high-quality books for young Richmond inner city students to enjoy and own, and to venture into expansion of our program with a pilot after school project at one of our schools. We are also hoping to introduce reading by visiting high school seniors from government classes or private schools, as part of their mandated Community service requirements. As always we will continue maintaining the high standards set by our founder, to enrich the literary environments and experiences of our students and their families. We can continue serving five schools in the district and let our volunteers, all from more affluent areas, see the dedicated work done by the teachers at these schools. Volunteers also notice that Chevron is one of our continuing corporate friends, since we put your stickers on many of our books and mention you in our newsletters. This is especially helpful public relations work in this current time of high gasoline prices! We try to emphasize the fact that Chevron is one of our continuing supporters and that your company remains committed to the communities surrounding the research and refinery buildings.

Once again, Mr. Jim Brumfield was kind enough to meet with me and to represent Read-aloud at a volunteer fair for employees when I couldn't attend. I appreciate his active and continuing help.

We know how many good causes surround your company, all asking for your help. We truly appreciate that you give us your time and attention and allow us to demonstrate to you the power and influence of our nonprofit. to hear our requests, and that you recognize and honor our work.

Enclosed is the original of the document you requested, as well as a page of some of the supportive comments from teachers at several of our schools, during the current year.

Again, many thanks for your donation. May you have a great spring and summer, and continuing success in the future.

Sincerely,

Judy
Judy Sam, Director
cc: Jim Brumfield

Thanks for a fun evening Saturday - One food was the best (& hottest) in a long while! I enjoyed meeting Pessy - she's lovely. J.

P.O. Box 2000 • El Cerrito, CA 94530 • Phone 510-237-0735

Below are comments from teachers from several of our five schools regarding their feelings on the value of our program. Please let us know if there is any other information you would like.

Our five schools: Coronado Elementary, Dover Elementary, Downer Elementary, Cesar Chavez Elementary, and Stege Elementary; located in San Pablo and Richmond, CA
Teachers' Remarks regarding the Read-Aloud Volunteer Program, 2005-06

"The RAVP (Read-Aloud Volunteer Program) is a wonderful tool for motivating students to read or to get them interested in good literature. It has been helpful in allowing students to have one-on-one time with caring adults. All of the readers have been so wonderful and so interested in the children they've served. I wish that each child in my classroom could have had a reader. This program needs to continue." Ruth Garnett, Downer Elementary School

"Like every year, watching the work of the RAVP is like witnessing a miracle in my students' lives. Any student would benefit from this program because it always has a positive impact in all the wide variety of areas in our students' academic and personal development." Pilar Marcos, Downer Elementary School

"I think the program is terrific. I really appreciate that these individuals would give so much of themselves by volunteering and being of service to others. I rate the Read-Aloud Program a '5' out of '5'." Ms. Ferry, Coronado Elementary School

"Participation in Read-Aloud best aided the student by providing much-needed one-to-one reading support in a positive, low-stress environment. He loved the experience. X began the year with some of the lowest test scores in reading, as well as low confidence and self-esteem. Since he has no parents who speak English, the opportunity for further practice with his Read-aloud mentor was a special time he looked forward to each week! I saw a great increase in X's reading confidence after he met and read with his tutor."
Ms. Long, Coronado Elementary School

"I love the Read-Aloud Program! The needs of the students are being addressed more specifically each year and I'm seeing big differences in results. Thank you!" Ms. McCarthy, Dover Elementary School

"I wish all of my students could have a weekly reader, a special friend, a safe and conscientious adult who can just focus on them even if only for a short while." Ms. McQueeney, Chavez Elementary School

"I believe that the Read-Aloud Program has helped XX be more confident around people. He has enjoyed going and having one-on-one time with someone. I see that he is not as severely shy as he was coming in to first grade." Ms. Garry, Chavez Elementary School