

Pearl River School District



EVANS PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
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Peggy Lynch
Principal

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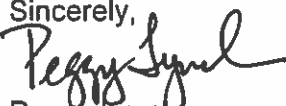
Dear Evans Park Families:

Today your children are coming home having commenced a schoolwide **Series Reading** initiative. All students, kindergarten through fourth grade, have selected a title from a series of their choice from the forty options we have available to them.

We began with a school assembly this morning, complete with reviews of the different series and an explanation of the advantages of reading multiple books in a series. The boys and girls will have the opportunity to check books out from twenty-nine locations in the building; every staff member is involved! When students complete a title, they will be asked to respond to it. There are many different response choices, which will be offered to them at the checkout locations. Responses will be displayed for others who may be motivated by schoolmates' reviews.

This initiative was informed by third and fourth grade teachers' study group work during the school year. Research about series reading tells us that when students read a series, they are not only increasing their time spent reading, but also connecting to the patterns in books, both visual and textual (e.g., plot, setting, characterization). Compelling results of series reading reported from a school across the country included increased motivation and engagement in reading as well as improved fluency. Thus, we organized our books, purchased additional series and titles and are ready to engage in this schoolwide venture. At the end of our six week, end-of-the-year focus, we will evaluate results for repetition and continuation during the next school year. Our hope also is that, if your children find a great series, they might be motivated to continue that reading during the summer.

We hope you'll participate by discussing and encouraging your children's reading at home. Should you have any questions or concerns, please be sure to contact your child's teacher.

Sincerely,

Peggy Lynch