

EAST GREENBUSH CENTRAL SCHOOLS

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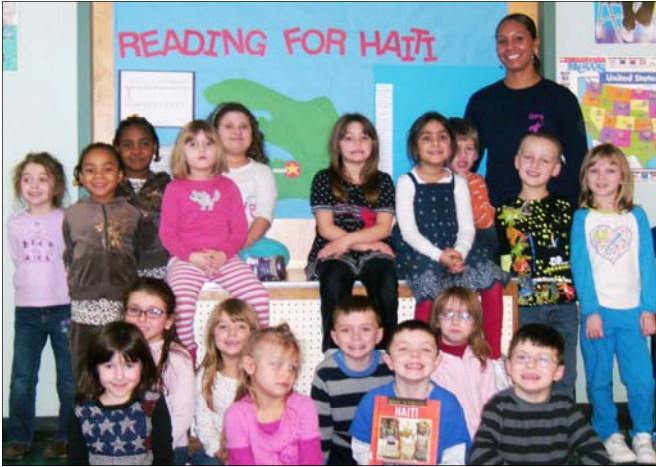
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EGCSD KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS READING FOR HAITI RELIEF EFFORT



East Greenbush Central School District's motto is 'Schools and Community Working Together.' The Donald P. Sutherland Elementary School students in Ms. Shondra Jones' Kindergarten class has adopted that motto and turned it into one the District's latest class project: ***Read for Haiti***. It has placed the class, and their worthwhile cause, in the limelight.

Following the news of the devastating earthquake in Haiti, the 19 students decided that they wanted to do something to help the victims. They came up with the idea and launched the ***Read for Haiti*** fundraising project.

The students have obtained sponsors within their school community, the District's local businesses, family, and friends. The sponsors have pledged to pay the students for each book they read within a three week period.

In addition, a number of businesses have pledged to support the ***Read for Haiti*** project by sponsoring the entire class while others made a generous donation. Some businesses agreed to match what the class earned.

"My students are very excited to read and they are so thrilled that they are helping people who need help. I am so proud of them and can't wait to see how much money we are able to raise to aid in the relief efforts," Jones said.

As a class, the students are keeping a visual graph of the books they are reading. On February 5th the class will present the money they raised to a representative of the Red Cross.

Beaming, Ms. Jones stated, "I think the students' efforts are amazing and I am truly inspired by them. I think others will be too." As the word has gotten out, the ***Read for Haiti*** project has been touted in the media. The class was seen on the Channel 9 News and also reported on the Channel 13 News by Dan Bazil. The students have also earned the title of B.95 radio station's "Kids Who Care."

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