



GOOSE CREEK

CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

San Jacinto teacher receives grant for books

When first-year teacher Christopher Scott asked for specific Guided Reading books for his 5th grade ELA students, San Jacinto Elementary School Principal Becky Robins suggested that he apply for a grant through DonorsChoose.org. Using the information on this site, donors choose the projects they want to sponsor, donating as little as \$1.00.

"The kids have such a desire to read as many books as possible, but our problem is that we don't have the books to accommodate that desire," said Scott on the site he set up through DonorsChoose.org.

Scott hoped to supply his students with high-interest books so they would read more and become better readers. He also planned book clubs, allowing students to become experts on the books they select, sharing the information with others.

As a result of DonorsChoose.org, Scott achieved his goal for his class. He and his students received a grant for \$773, allowing them to select 100 books from various genres that will not only challenge and enhance the students' readability, but will also help them gain a wealth of knowledge in various subject areas.

"I'm trying to give my students a world perspective by reading," said Scott. "This week, we're in India. I hope to spark the desire in them to see the world."

Scott did not care much for reading until he discovered the Harry Potter books. He now claims to be a Harry Potter fanatic, and he has even traveled to London.

He is excited that his students will have the opportunity to read high-interest books due to the kindness of others.



Students in Christopher Scott's class at San Jacinto Elementary visit with Baytown Mayor Steve DonCarlos during Red Ribbon Week. The students will benefit from reading high-interest books as a result of a grant Scott received from DonorsChoose.org. Pictured are (1st row, l to r) Alcadia Solis, Angelita Ruiz, Michelle Magana, Diana Pedraza, Ty'Rell Respress, Leanna Verastegui (2nd row, l to r) Scott, Jesus Herrera-Zavala, DonCarlos, Kacen Carpenter, Travis Nichols, Annie Rueda, Daniela Moncivais, Logan Colon (3rd row, l to r) Heather Ramos, Angel Medina, Abigail Orosco, Deziree Hagan, Ivan Velazquez, Mark Salazar, Eddie Martinez and Izayah Hernandez.

"These donations will help these children to understand that there are people out in the world that truly care for them and their education," said Scott. "I hope this donation can spark a desire for them to pass this kindness on into the world. The donations will contribute to the overall classroom environment because we are creating a love of reading, and my students can pass that on to their family and friends."

"I am very proud of Mr. Scott and his dedication to his students," said Robins. "As a first-year teacher, he has hit the ground running and is continuously challenging himself and striving to improve every day."

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