

SDUSD Stories: Hoover High students making a difference through reading

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Reading is often associated as an early indicator of academic success, and can be the make-or-break factor for a child's ability to learn and comprehend other subjects. In the critical early learning years of 0-5, parents and caregivers are typically a child's only education providers - and frequently, they need a little help.

In City Heights, that help has been coming in the form of student volunteers from Hoover High School.



The Euclid Child Development Center has partnered with the nonprofit organization Reading Legacies, arranging for thirty students from Hoover High School to volunteer weekly to read to 3 and 4 year-old students. The high schoolers check out books from the public library, pre-read them, and then share them with the youngsters every Wednesday.



Ms. Russell, one of the teachers at Euclid CDC, says Wednesdays are her favorite day of the week because she gets to "watch the childrens' faces light up—both high school students and the 3 and 4 year-olds!"

In the first week of October, the Euclid CDC celebrated the grand opening of its "Family Lending Library," a major new part of San Diego Unified's goal to put books in the hands of all children and their families. As part of this collective effort, the Euclid CDC is aiming to have all of its students successfully read 1,000 books before entering kindergarten.



Families of the students at Euclid Child Development Center are invited to come in and visit the lending library before and after pick-up/drop off, according to Early Childhood Education Vice Principal Melissa Roy-Wood. "One grandpa and his grandson come every morning to spend quality time together. He shared with our staff that bringing his grandson to the lending library... feels like a reward for him when he has a good day at school."

Roy-Wood says they are encouraging more families to join in the "1,000 Books Before Kindergarten" program. "Our goal is to provide a simple, innovative yet fun approach to establishing strong early literacy skills. We help young children gain the confidence necessary to become strong readers."

For further information on the "1,000 Books" program , visit: <https://1000booksbeforekindergarten.org>

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