

Superior Court of California County of Santa Clara



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 1, 2013

Judges Serve Up a Little Green Eggs and Ham to Local Students

Santa Clara County Judges adopt San Jose's Washington Elementary School for the Court's annual participation in Read Across America.

SAN JOSE, Calif. (March 1, 2013): today, 20 Judges from the Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara (Court) are volunteering during their lunch hour to celebrate national Read Across America at San Jose Unified School District's Washington Elementary School. Judges will be reading stories that were either written by Dr. Seuss, celebrate Black History Month or give a child's perspective into the court system. The Judges have personally selected and purchased the books, which will also be donated to the school.

Sponsored by the National Education Association, Read Across America Day is a nationwide reading celebration that takes place annually on March 2—Dr. Seuss's birthday. Across the country, thousands of schools, libraries and community centers participate by bringing together kids, teens and books.

"This is an incredible opportunity for Judges to create an educational, face-to-face experience with young students who may not have any positive contact with the judicial system," said Judge Julia Alloggiamento, Chair of the Court's Communication and Community Outreach Committee. "These students are not only our future jurors but could also be attorneys and Judges one day too. Our Court recognizes the importance of early, positive exposure to the third branch of American government and keeping our youngsters on positive life trajectory is priority for our bench."

As Dr Seuss's birthday falls on a Saturday this year, Judges will celebrate by reading to elementary students on Friday, March 1. In an addition to being a fun, educationally enriching experience, students also benefit from seeing firsthand the strong ethnic and gender diversity of Santa Clara County's bench.

"Meeting a Judge and being able to ask questions about the justice system, as well as learning about these women and men's paths to becoming a Judge is an incredible opportunity for our students," said Maria Evans, Washington Elementary School's principal. "The kids get so excited when the Judges arrive, dressed in robes, with books in hand. There's a very positive message here for our students – anyone from any background who studies hard and puts their mind to it can one day become whatever they dream, including a Judge."

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