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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Granger Elementary wins \$1,500 literacy grant from ATPE Foundation

AUSTIN – Association of Texas Professional Educators (ATPE) Executive Director Doug Rogers will make a special presentation to Granger Elementary School during today's Granger ISD school board meeting to recognize the school for winning a \$1,500 literacy grant from the ATPE Foundation. Lisa Repa, a teacher at the school, applied for the foundation's Beth Ann Rogers Literacy Initiative Grant with the hope of adding new physical and digital books and computer software to a library collection that is more than 20 years old.

The school's current library budget is just \$2,500 for 412 students for the entire academic year, and only \$1,000 of the budget can be used to purchase literacy materials. The grant will allow the school to purchase new computer software for the library, which will allow students more access to digital books and tools to improve their reading level. The library's current software only allows students to reserve a few digital books for free. The library also does not have many audio books.

According to Repa, teachers and other school staff members donate many magazines to the library and library staff members make do with what they have. The library offers students more than just literature—library staff members organize poetry contests and family reading events and provide a display for student authored books.

The ATPE Foundation Board of Directors was impressed by the school and how much its library does with limited funding.

Through the Beth Ann Rogers Literacy Initiative Grant, the foundation will provide \$1,500 grants to seven Texas public school libraries for the purchase and modernization of literacy materials and resources during the 2012-13 school year. The grant is named in memory of longtime educator Beth Ann Rogers, who worked as a teacher, principal and school librarian throughout her 36-year career in public education.

For more information about the ATPE Foundation, visit <http://www.atpefoundation.org/>.

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The ATPE Foundation was established in 2000 by the Association of Texas Professional Educators (ATPE), the state's leading educators' association and the largest independent association for public school educators in the nation. The foundation is dedicated to the advancement of public education and the success of Texas schoolchildren through literacy initiatives, technology programs, and educator recruitment and retention efforts.