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Brookline Elementary wins \$1,500 ATPE Foundation literacy grant

HOUSTON, Texas – The Association of Texas Professional Educators (ATPE) Foundation Director Loree LeBoeuf recently made a special presentation to Brookline Elementary recognizing the school for winning a \$1,500 literacy grant.

Brookline librarian Theodore Wills applied for the foundation’s Beth Ann Rogers Literacy Initiative Grant with the hope of adding new books to a library collection in which the average age of the books is 15 years old.

“The highest priority for Brookline Elementary is to increase reading comprehension for 70 percent of all students,” Wills wrote in his grant application.

Brookline Elementary is a Title I school and 98 percent of their students are eligible for free or reduced lunch. The school only had a \$1,000 annual library budget, but with ATPE Foundation’s literacy grant, their budget has been more than doubled. Wills said the school will use the literacy grant funds to buy an additional 90 books to add to their library collection.

Through the Beth Ann Rogers Literacy Initiative Grant, the foundation provides \$1,500 grants to seven Texas public school libraries for the purchase and modernization of literacy materials and resources each year. The grant is named in memory of longtime Texas 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 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.