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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Tuloso-Midway Primary School wins \$1,500 literacy grant from ATPE Foundation**

AUSTIN – Association of Texas Professional Educators (ATPE) Foundation past president Rose Perez will make a special presentation to Tuloso-Midway Primary School during its school board meeting today to recognize the school for winning a \$1,500 literacy grant from the ATPE Foundation. Sarah Walker, the school librarian, applied for the foundation’s Beth Ann Rogers Literacy Initiative Grant with the hope of adding new digital books to a library collection that is more than 15 years old.

The school’s current library budget is \$4,750 for 1,052 students for the entire academic year, and only \$2,000 of the budget can be used to purchase literacy materials. The library hosts two book fairs during the school year to raise money but is only able to keep a percentage of the book fair profits. The grant will allow the school to purchase new e-books for the library.

“This means that if all 12 second-grade teachers need a book on inventors, they won’t have to share the single copy currently in the library collection,” Walker wrote in her grant application. “They can all access the e-book at the same time from their classroom.”

Parents and students will also be able to access the e-books from home on a smartphone or tablet.

“We’re creating a library without walls in our community,” Walker said. “The grant will help us provide 40 new titles, a great start toward creating a 21<sup>st</sup> century library collection for our students and teachers.”

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.*