



Literacy. Technology. Longevity.

305 E. Huntland Dr., Suite 300, Austin, TX 78752
(800) 777-ATPE • (512) 467-0071 • atpefoundation.org

Media Contact:
Stephanie Jacksis
Office: 512-467-0071
Cell: 281-760-8697
sjacksis@atpe.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 28, 2014

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

DALLAS, Texas – The Association of Texas Professional Educators (ATPE) Foundation is recognizing Bayles Elementary for winning a \$1,500 literacy grant from the foundation.

Bayles Librarian Karen Burt 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 16 years old.

“Reading is fundamental to being able to succeed and excel in school and life,” Burt wrote in her application. “[Bayles] students come from households where there is typically not enough money to provide learning resources such as books, supplies and computers. As educators, it is our job to overcome this obstacle.”

Around 96 percent of the population Bayles Elementary serves is of low socioeconomic status. Almost half of the children are Spanish-speaking, yet only 14 percent of the school’s book collection is in Spanish. The grant money will be used to update the library’s book collection. Burt hopes that the new books will help students develop a love of reading and lead them to become lifelong learners and effective users of information.

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.

###

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.