

NEWS RELEASE

From the Office of Communications
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READ FOR A BETTER LIFE

Dr. Don Stockton, Superintendent of the Conroe Independent School District, along with the Board of Trustees will be launching a district-wide initiative to encourage all adults to read to a child at least thirty minutes each day. The initiative, "Read for a Better Life," will be introduced at the September 18, 2007 Board meeting. Stockton will be reading to a group of fourth grade students from Armstrong Elementary school to model what he envisions will become second nature to all members of the CISD community.

"Reading aloud to children is the key to prepare children for learning to read and to keep them reading throughout their life," stated Stockton. "Research has shown that this simple activity will have tremendous impact on a student's success in school. Our goal is to educate all members of our community in the importance of reading aloud to students of all ages. Reading aloud to children has always been done in our schools; what we want to do is encourage this activity on a larger scale."

A brochure has been developed and will be mailed to all parents and businesses throughout the district. The brochure will cite the benefits to students and offer tips and activities related to reading aloud to students. Resources to assist in this endeavor will be listed along with helpful web sites and ways for parents and community members to become involved.

Each campus will host reading activities throughout the year. These activities will foster the development and improvement of the literacy skills of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Guest readers will also be invited to the schools to read aloud to students both during school and after school hours.

"Read for a Better Life" will be a simple task requiring few resources and resulting in many benefits to students. The District is committed to this project and looks forward to the involvement of all members of the CISD community to read aloud to students.