

Superior Court of California County of Santa Clara

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Superior Court Affirms Dr. Seuss' Findings "A person is a person, no matter how small"

*Superior Court Judicial Officers visit Gardner Elementary
for Read Across America*

SAN JOSÉ, California (February 27, 2020): Sponsored by the National Education Association, Read Across America Day is a nationwide reading celebration that takes place annually on March 2—Dr. Seuss's birthday. On Friday, March 6, 2020, twenty judicial officers from the Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara are volunteering their time to celebrate national Read Across America Day at this year's sponsored school -- San Jose Unified School District's Gardner Elementary School.

"Meeting with a judicial officer in a school setting is an incredible opportunity for our students," said Margaret Petkiewicz, Principal of Gardner Elementary. "Our students, staff, and educators are all looking forward to hosting the Superior Court judicial officers for this wonderful event. Some will be reading to our students in English and Spanish!"

Across the country thousands of schools, libraries, and community centers participate by bringing together children, teenagers, and books in celebration of literacy. Our judicial officers will be reading stories that were either written by Dr. Seuss, celebrate Black History Month, or give a child's perspective into the court system. The judicial officers have personally selected and purchased the books which will also be donated to the school.

Judge Julia Alloggiamento, Chair of the Community Outreach Committee noted, "As Dr. Seuss says, 'A person is a person no matter how small.' We love this event because we get the opportunity to read to our 'smallest' members of our community and not only show them that we appreciate them as people, but also demonstrate to them that judges are people too. We recognize that although small, they are mighty, and will be our future jurors, judges, attorneys, litigants, and community leaders."

In cooperation with the Santa Clara County Office of Education and the San Jose Unified School District, Gardner Elementary will be allowing approved and credentialed media to attend the event. All requests must be approved by SJUSD in advance, please contact Benjamin Rada, Superior Court Public Affairs, brada@scscourt.org for additional information.



Hon. Peter H. Kirwan addresses a room full of excited students in 2019.



Hon. Mark H. Pierce enjoys a laugh with the students in 2019.

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