



Manchester Public Schools

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'Nutmeg at Night' to promote district wide literacy

(Manchester, CT—January 23, 2009) **'Nutmeg at Night,'** an event designed to promote district wide literacy will be held Thursday, January 29 at Verplanck Elementary School from 6 – 7:30 p.m. The event brings together students from Manchester Public Schools who have read five or more titles nominated for the state wide 2009 Nutmeg Award. Students and their families will come together to celebrate books and reading.

“These books have generated enormous excitement among students,” said Linda Plavin, library/media department chair. “We are expecting more than 95 fourth through sixth grade students and have a waiting list,” added Plavin. The books on the Nutmeg list include adventure stories, science fiction, fantasy and mysteries, according to Plavin. Some of the titles are *Blood on the River: Jamestown 1607*, *Shakespeare's Secret*, *Three Good Deeds* and *Gossamer*.

The event is a collaborative effort of public school media specialists, the Foundation for Manchester Public Schools, Manchester Public Libraries, Manchester Public School Libraries, Manchester PTA Council and the Verplanck Elementary School PTA.

During the event, children and their families will be treated to pizza. Participants will also be divided into groups to play the 'Nutmeg Book Challenge,' a multiple choice and short answer quiz game. Each participant will be given a t-shirt designed by a Robertson Elementary School student whose graphic was chosen from 150 submissions earlier this year. In addition, each participant will receive a copy of one of the newly announced Nutmeg nominee books for 2010.

For more information about the event, contact Lisa Plavin at (860) 647-3364. Verplanck Elementary School is located at 126 Olcott Street.

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