

Coventry Public Schools

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PRESS RELEASE

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The Connecticut Reading Association (CRA), a professional literacy organization, awarded three \$750.00 grants to George Hersey Robertson Intermediate School teachers. The mission of the Connecticut Reading Association is to empower educators, inspire students, and encourage the community to embrace literacy as an essential tool for lifelong success.

Margo Vachon, Reading Consultant, and Lauren Jordan, reading teacher, were grant recipients for their proposal to enhance the Summer Reading Program. The grant funding will be used to purchase high interest books that will be given to students to build excitement and encourage reading over the summer. This project will help ensure that the reading progress students made throughout the school year will continue through the summer.

Nicole Prasser's, Grade 5 teacher, proposal titled, Reading with a Historical Lens, was granted to help support the integration of social studies in English Language Arts. Texts at a wide range of reading levels will support students' reading independence.

A third proposal titled, This Project is for the Birds, submitted by Grade 5 teachers, Nora Jones and Lynn Bernier, will provide students with the opportunity to explore the world of birds. Students will read a biography about John James Audubon and examine and learn about bird features, bird adaptations, migration patterns, and conservation. All Grade 5 students will learn how to interpret a bird field guide, use it to identify birds, and learn how to properly use and handle binoculars. Then, students will practice bird identification "out in the field".

All grant recipients will have an opportunity to showcase their projects at the annual CRA Awards Banquet in May 2018. In addition, teachers will also have the opportunity to share the success of their project at the CRA Fall 2018 conference.

This information was provided by George Hersey Robertson Intermediate School. For further information, please contact Dr. Beth Giller, Principal, at 860-742-7341 or bgiller@coventryct.org.

