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*The Idaho Commission for Libraries assists libraries to build the capacity to better serve their communities.*

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## NEWS RELEASE

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## **\$200,000 Awarded to Schools throughout Idaho**

**BOISE, ID** – The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) awarded \$200,000 to 47 elementary schools throughout Idaho for the purchase of books to serve students pre-kindergarten through first grade and to allow five schools to open their libraries during the summer. The funds were in the form of mini-grants, for amounts between \$1,000 and \$5,000, each.

The goals of the grant program were: to increase the amount of reading done in homes of children in developmental preschool programs, kindergarten, and first grade; to increase access to age-appropriate, quality, nonfiction and fiction titles in elementary school libraries; and to increase the number of children reading on grade level.

“A child’s educational foundation is established early, and the amount of reading done in the home is the single most important factor in the development of a child’s literacy skills,” said State Librarian Ann Joslin. “But too many of our youngest Idahoans are at a disadvantage in this critical area because their elementary school lacks the resources to allow students to check books out and take them home.” Joslin continued, “The mini-grants awarded through the ICfL’s Read to Me program will give students access to the print materials that will form the base of their lifelong learning.”

There were 73 application requests, totaling \$320,500. The ICfL received \$200,000 in funding from the Idaho state legislature to fund 47 school mini-grants.

Forty-two grants, totaling \$175,000, were awarded to the following elementary schools. In addition, five schools were awarded \$5,000 grants so their libraries could be open during the summer. This access to books minimizes the “summer slide” of learning loss for students.

Blackfoot School District #55: Donald D. Stalker Elementary, \$5,000

Blackfoot School District #55: Fort Hall Elementary, \$5,000

Blackfoot School District #55: Ridge Crest Elementary, \$5,000

Blackfoot School District #55: Wapello Elementary, \$3,000

Blaine County School District #61: Bellevue Elementary, \$5,000

Blaine County School District #61: Ernest Hemingway Elementary, \$2,000

Boise School District #1: Whittier Elementary, \$5,000

Bonneville Joint School District #93: Hillview Elementary, \$5,000

Bonneville Joint School District #93: Mountain Valley Elementary, \$5,000

Bonneville Joint School District #93: Summit Hills Elementary \$5,000

Butte County District #111: Howe Elementary, \$1,000

Cassia Joint School District #151: Raft River Elementary, \$5,000

Challis Joint School District #181: Challis Elementary \$3,000

Coeur d’Alene School District #271: Ramsey Elementary Magnet School of Science, \$5,000

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## **\$200,000 Awarded to Schools throughout Idaho--cont'd**

Genesee Joint School District #282: Genesee Elementary, \$5,000  
Grace School District #148: Grace Elementary, \$5,000  
Idaho Falls School District #91: Linden Park Elementary, \$5,000  
Independent School District #221 of Emmett: Kenneth J. Carberry Elementary/Intermediate, \$5,000  
Jefferson County Joint School District #251: Harwood Elementary, \$3,000  
Jefferson County Joint School District #251: Midway Elementary, \$3,000  
Jefferson County Joint School District #251: South Fork Elementary, \$4,000  
Kellogg Joint School District #391: Canyon Elementary Science Magnet School, \$3,000  
Kuna Joint School District #3: Crimson Point Elementary, \$5,000  
Lakeland School District #272: Athol Elementary, \$3,000  
Lewiston Independent School District #1: McGhee Elementary, \$5,000  
Lewiston Independent School District #1: Webster Elementary, \$5,000  
Madison School District #321: Adams Elementary, \$2,000  
Madison School District #321: Lincoln Elementary, \$2,000  
Madison School District #321: South Fork Elementary, \$2,000  
Moscow School District #281: A.B. McDonald Elementary, \$4,000  
Nampa School District #131: Idaho Arts Charter School, \$4,000  
Pocatello/Chubbuck School District #25: Chubbuck Elementary, \$5,000  
Pocatello/Chubbuck School District #25: Jefferson Elementary, \$5,000  
Pocatello/Chubbuck School District #25: Lewis and Clark Elementary, \$5,000  
Pocatello/Chubbuck School District #25: Rulon M. Ellis Elementary, \$5,000  
Pocatello/Chubbuck School District #25: Tendoy Elementary, \$5,000  
Pocatello/Chubbuck School District #25: Washington Elementary, \$5,000  
Pocatello/Chubbuck School District #25: Wilcox Elementary, \$5,000  
Snake River School District #52: Moreland Elementary, \$1,000  
Twin Falls School District #411: Oregon Trail Elementary, \$5,000  
Twin Falls School District #411: Rock Creek Elementary, \$5,000  
Vallivue School District #139: West Canyon Elementary, \$5,000

### **2016-2017 School Library Access Summer Grants:**

Blackfoot School District #55: Groveland Elementary School, \$5,000  
Boundary County School District #101: Valley View Elementary, \$5,000  
Caldwell School District #132: Sacajawea Elementary, \$5,000  
Jerome School District #261: Horizon Elementary, \$5,000  
Lake Pend Oreille School District #84: Kootenai Elementary, \$5,000

See more about ICfL's Read to Me School Library Elementary School Access Mini-Grants program at: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/school-access-mini-grants>.

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The Idaho Commission for Libraries helps libraries build the capacity to better serve their clientele by supporting statewide databases and online resources, continuing education, consulting, programming, early literacy skills, and building library community. To learn more about ICfL, visit <http://libraries.idaho.gov>.