



NEWS RELEASE

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Beth Garcia

Ferris Professional Women provide books for local students

BIG RAPIDS – The Ferris Professional Women recently presented Chippewa Hills Intermediate School with an award to purchase books for the school library.

“The most amazing thing about all of this was the amount our school received,” said Principal Bob Grover. “We were given a check for \$1,170. When we were informed that we would be receiving this award, I was flattered. But I had no idea what the amount was going to be. When we received the check, my jaw hit the ground.”

According to Maude Bigford, FPW member and Book Project chair, the FPW Book Project was initiated in hopes of benefiting young women in local school systems. “We wanted to supply the middle schools with texts about women scientists, doctors and authors, to help serve as role models for the young girls,” said Bigford.

With the help of FPW donations, the award reached an all-time high, allowing the library to purchase books suggested by FPW. “I believe this was the first time since this started six years ago that we have been able to purchase every book on the list,” said Bigford. “We had so many donations, and the FPW was able to match them as well.”

“My librarian was ecstatic when I gave her the check,” added Grover. “Nearly \$1,200 buys a lot of books, especially for a library such as ours, which could use the additional resources,” said Grover.

According to Chippewa Hills Intermediate School Librarian Kathy Shoemaker, “Any librarian would love to have these types of books. They will add quite a bit to our media center. It is a wonderful contribution, and will allow us to have new and up-to-date books on subjects that are important to young students,” said Shoemaker.

Grover is hoping the purchased books will help educate and empower young students. “Many of these books will be female-oriented, encouraging girls to pursue careers in fields such as engineering or medicine,” he said.

“These are the stories we want young girls to be able to read,” said Bigford.

To become involved with the Ferris Professional Women’s organization, or to learn more about the FPW Book Project, persons may visit www.ferris.edu/htmls/othersrv/FPW.

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