

For Immediate Release

November 9, 2012

Contact:

Librarian Miranda Cary
or Principal Jacob Perlmutter
at (843) 767-8383

Book Worm Angels Visit Local Middle School

Jerry Zucker Middle School Participating in National Literacy Program

Jacob Perlmutter
Principal
Jerry Zucker Middle School of Science

Dr. Nancy J. McGinley
Superintendent of Schools

NORTH CHARLESTON—

On Wednesday, November 7th Mr. Clarence B. Manning from Book Worm Angels--South Carolina Chapter delivered over 1600 donated books to Jerry Zucker Middle School. The books were then sorted by a group of students and reading teachers and delivered to each homeroom. Students will be able to check out books from these classroom libraries and bring them home to read. When they return a book, they can select another to take home.

Book Worm Angels is a national literacy organization founded in Chicago in 1999 with the aim of encouraging recreational reading habits among pre-K through 8th grade students in high poverty schools. The program was developed with the belief that "kids who read succeed" and that having access to books at home is one of the keys to reading success. All the books disbursed to schools through the Book Worm Angels program are obtained through book drives hosted by schools, libraries, businesses, and community organizations. There is no cost to the school that benefits from the donated books, but there are several "rules" to the program: student participation is voluntary, students must bring the books home to read, and parents/caregivers must be encouraged to turn off the tv for 20-30 minutes each night and read along with their student.

Jerry Zucker Middle School is the first South Carolina middle school to participate in the Book Worm Angels literacy program. According to Principal Jacob Perlmutter, "This partnership is very exciting for our school. Putting high interest books in a student's hands can create a

real spark. We had students sorting the books into genres, and several of them just picked a book, sat down and started reading! This is another creative way that we have supplemented our program and budget, and the mission of Book Worm Angels aligns perfectly with our core academic mission.”

For more information regarding this event, please contact Principal Jacob Perlmutter or librarian Miranda Cary at (843) 767-8383.

###