

For Immediate Release

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Local Author Inspires Students *Sybil Nelson Visits Jerry Zucker Middle School*

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NORTH CHARLESTON—

On Friday, March 1st author Sybil Nelson shared her inspirational story with students at Jerry Zucker Middle School. Ms. Nelson writes the popular *Priscilla the Great* series. She also writes novels for young adults under her pseudonym, Leslie DuBois. In addition to being an award-winning author, Ms. Nelson is a wife, the mother of two young daughters, and a full-time student at MUSC working on a Ph.D. in biostatistics. She also runs her own publishing company here in Charleston, Little Prince Publishing. All this is a far cry from her hometown of Daytona Beach, Florida where she grew up in poverty. Ms. Nelson told Zucker Middle students that it was her weekly trip by bus to the public library that instilled within her a love of reading and the desire to be a writer. She won a scholarship to Washington and Lee University to study journalism, but later changed her focus and graduated with degrees in math and music. She taught math for nine years, all the time aspiring to become a published author and writing whenever she could. Her first book, *Priscilla the Great*, was published in 2010 to critical acclaim, winning The Strongest Start Novel competition. It was also named a Flamingnet Top Choice Book and was voted Most Hilarious Read of 2010 by Booklopedia. She has even sold the movie rights to the series. Ms. Nelson encouraged students who want to be authors to read everything, to have an imagination, and to write as much as possible. Ms. Nelson told students that she writes at least 1000 words every day.

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