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Subject: Press Release: New Ben Carson Reading Room Now Open at Allamanda Elementary School

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The School District of Palm Beach County
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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October 24, 2014

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New Ben Carson Reading Room Now Open at Allamanda Elementary School

PALM BEACH GARDENS, FL - The newest Ben Carson Reading Room was unveiled on Oct. 23 at Allamanda Elementary School. Candy Carson, Co-Founder of the Carson Scholars Fund cut the ribbon alongside Superintendent E. Wayne Gent and Principal Marilu Garcia during the dedication ceremony, which included student performances, essay readings, original songs and many students in literary costumes.

The Palm Beach County Chapter of the Carson Scholars Fund has created a special place at Allamanda Elementary School where students can foster a love of reading. The room has been specially designed and stocked with over 500 books that students have helped select.

"Learning to read is the foundation for having a successful academic career. The Ben Carson Reading Room at Allamanda Elementary is a great resource for our students," Superintendent E. Wayne Gent said. "We thank the Palm Beach County Chapter of the Carson Scholars Fund for their fundraising efforts that made this room possible."

The Ben Carson Reading Project was created by world-renowned retired pediatric neurosurgeon and New York Times bestselling author Dr. Ben Carson and his wife, Candy. Mrs. Carson told the audience that reading had changed the life of her husband when he was young. "He went from a poor student to the best student because he discovered reading," Carson said.

The Ben Carson Reading Project creates a literacy enriched environment for children to promote reading as a key to unlocking a child's full potential.

Currently there are 114 Ben Carson Reading Room locations serving students in 16 states and the District of Columbia. The project has placed over 55,000 books into students' hands.

For more information about Allamanda Elementary School's new Ben Carson Reading Room call the Office of Communications at (561) 357-1114. To learn more about the Carson Scholars Fund visit www.carsonscholars.org.

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About the School District of Palm Beach County

The School District of Palm Beach County is the eleventh largest in the nation and the fifth largest in the state of Florida with 185 schools, serving more than 183,000 students who speak 150 languages and dialects. As the largest employer in Palm Beach County, the school district has nearly 21,000 employees, including more than 12,000 teachers. To learn more about the School District of Palm Beach County, visit www.palmbeachschools.org.



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