PRESS RELEASE

Aventura City of Excellence School

Date: **September 21, 2007**
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ACES Special Projects

ACES 4th ANNUAL SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR FUNDRAISER

ACES STUDENTS "REPLACED" BY BOOK CHARACTERS

Aventura City of Excellence School, (ACES) students donned the garb of their favorite book characters to kick-off the school's Scholastic Book Fair Event promoting literacy.

After arriving at school as book characters, the student with the best-dressed costume in each class was awarded the honor of going to the ACES AM TV News Show, which broadcasts live daily to 900 students. The best book character costume winners were thrilled to receive (4) tickets to a Florida Panthers Game.

"Hosting the Scholastic Book Fair at ACES has not only provided us with a successful way to raise funds for the school," says ACES Principal Julie Alm, "but it's also a great opportunity to promote literacy through creative, fun events that foster family participation."

STUDENTS & FAMILES "SPEND THE NIGHT" AT ACES P.J. STORYTELLING EVENT

Students, families and staff "spent the night" in their pajamas at Aventura City of Excellence School's *"Pajamas and Pizza Storytelling Night"* to celebrate the Scholastic Book Fair fundraiser. To get students in the spirit, Principal, Ms. Alm and ACES AM Show cast members dressed in pajamas to report the upcoming PJ Event to the school on the ACES AM News Show. Then they visited classes in their PJ's performing skits to announce the event. The result was a record breaking attendance of over 1,100 ACES students, families and staff members dressed in P.J.'s to attend ACES 4th annual P.J. event. Families enjoyed yummy pizza, face painting, clowns, shopping the book fair and were especially delighted by the wonderful stories that were read and acted by Principal, Julie Alm, Vice Principal, Daniel Sandberg, and Dean, Kristine Griffin. Students were elated to see their favorite storybook characters "*Clifford*" the dog, and "*Geronimo Stilton*" at the event too. Famous children's author of the popular "What Lies Beneath the Bed," "Tommy's Tales" and "Parade of Lights" book series, Mr. Gerald Sharpe made a special guest appearance to the delight of the ACES Middle School Students. "It's an evening that will be remembered for a long time by all," said Vice Principal Daniel Sandberg.

Principal, Julie Alm said, “We’re lucky to have so many students and families participating in our events. Our tremendous success is due to our fabulous, tireless volunteers and supportive families. Our students work so hard, it’s a pleasure to see everyone enjoying an evening out together at ACES to support Literacy.”

ACES STUDENTS AND GRANDPARENTS “GREET THE DAY” TOGETHER

ACES Students and Grandparents began the day together at ACES annual “Grandparents Books and Breakfast Celebration” in honor of “Reading Literacy” and the Scholastic Book Fair.

Vice Principal, Daniel Sandberg, Dean, Kristine Griffin and Business Manager, Jorge Paz welcomed the smiling Grandparents to ACES. “We really wanted our Grandparents to get involved in their Grandchildren’s education, so we invited them to breakfast,” says Principal, Julie Alm, “the response was astounding with over 650 Grandparents and students participating. It gave our Grandparents an opportunity to visit ACES, to participate in their Grandchild’s education and to encourage ACES students to become Lifelong Lovers of Reading.”

Students and Grandparents enjoyed a sumptuous breakfast, got their pictures taken, and then shopped the ACES Book Fair together. Parent Volunteers did an outstanding job of assisting with the event’s breakfast and bookstore. Area community businesses and families contributed to the success of the ACES Breakfast Event by donating goods and their time. Many Grandparents expressed that this event allowed them to actively encourage their grandchildren to read for pleasure and knowledge. The joyful expression on the faces of ACES students and grandparents demonstrated the significance of this event.