



United Jewish Federation®
OF GREATER STAMFORD, NEW CANAAN AND DARIEN

BETTER TOGETHER

Herbert and Sarah M. Gibor
Reading Partners' Program

August 2018

Dear Reading Partners,

Happy Summer! I hope you are all staying cool and taking care of yourselves during this heat wave! It is hard to believe that we are quickly approaching the new school year. I want to thank all of you for an amazing 2017-2018 school year of volunteering, and devotion to the children of Reading Partners. I have been happy to hear from most of the partners that they will be continuing on next year. Again, please feel free to talk up our program and invite friends and family to contact me if they are interested. It is always wonderful to get referrals from current volunteers.



We ended the year on a high note at our annual Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast, and the end of May/start of June were filled with the various school and after school celebrations for students who had successfully completed the year of reading with their partner. While there is no reading with our students over the summer, I have continued to recruit new readers and plan workshops and training for the coming year. A popular training request has been activities and games you can do with your student within a half hour time frame. Please suggest any other topics of interest.

I am in the office on Mondays and Wednesday mornings. Be sure to call first to make sure I am in, but please stop by and say hello!

Thank you for all that you do and Happy Reading,
Lenore

Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast

End of Year Celebrations



Attendees enjoying Tish Rabe's Performance.

Over sixty volunteers, supporters and public school staff and administration joined together to celebrate Reading Partners' success. Some of the highlights of the morning began with Ed Smith relaying the fabulous back story of how the Herbert and Sarah M. Gibor Foundation came to support Reading Partners. Tish Rabe, author of multiple books including the Dr. Seuss Science Series, kept everyone engaged through her stories and songs. To conclude the morning, Ellen Weber honored and thanked previous Director, Marlyn Agatstein, for her years of service and dedication to Reading Partners.



Reading Partner Abbey Smoler and Creative Learning Staff Ms. Wendy celebrate the children's accomplishments this year at The Fish Church.

Reading Partners' end of year celebrations were centered on recognizing and acknowledging the roles of the student, volunteers and staff in the successful reading that took place this year. Many of the school staff attended or stopped by the parties. Volunteers told wonderful stories about their students. Delicious and healthy snacks were served. Many of the children made special gifts or cards for their Reading Partners. It was hard to tell if the children or adults were enjoying themselves more!

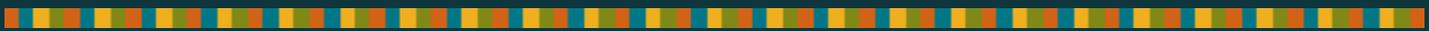
Volunteer Spotlight

Lois Dreyer has a Ph.D. in Applied Educational Psychology: Reading from Columbia University, and is Professor Emerita of Reading, Southern Connecticut State University. She has been a consultant to Reading Partners since the program first began in Stamford 19 years ago, and is currently a team leader at both KT Murphy Elementary School and Roxbury Elementary School, where she also reads with children.

Lois and her husband have two sons, both married with children. Lois' volunteer

work is focused primarily on Reading Partners. Her other longtime and continuing interest is black and white photography, especially the old-fashioned darkroom kind.

In our September Back to School newsletter, Lois will share some suggestions for successful sessions with our students.



A Peek at the 2018-2019 School Year

Thursday August 30th- First Day of School

Monday September 3- Labor Day School Closed

Monday September 10-Rosh Hashana School Closed

Tuesday September 11- Rosh Hashana School Closed

Wednesday September 19- Yom Kippur School Closed

Wednesday September 26- Early Release

Monday October 8- School Closed

Wednesday October 31- Early Release