



**PRESS RELEASE**  
For Immediate Release

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## **The Stamford Public Education Foundation’s Books Across Stamford Program Provides Free Books and Wintertime Fun for 250 Children**

**STAMFORD, CT—January 31, 2023**—Two hundred and fifty students in pre-kindergarten through fifth grade gathered at a special Winter Wonderland Book Giveaway event on Saturday, January 28 at the Ferguson Library. The free event was sponsored by the Library and Stamford Public Education Foundation (SPEF) in partnership with Reading is Fundamental (RIF), Stamford Public Schools (SPS) and the City of Stamford, as part of SPEF’s Books Across Stamford program. Students from over 20 schools visited the Library to select three books each, to help build their home library. With the help of over 15 volunteers, SPEF welcomed families from across Stamford and distributed approximately 750 books to children.

It was a fun-filled afternoon. In addition to the book distribution, the event included presentations from special guest readers:

- Dr. Tamu Lucero, Superintendent of Stamford Public Schools
- Caroline Simmons, Mayor of Stamford
- Mark Bonasera, Principal of Roxbury High School
- Hubert Delany, Connecticut State Representative

Students also decorated snowflakes, took silly selfies with wintertime props, and enjoyed snacks that were graciously provided by Chartwells.

“We are so thankful for our partnership with Reading Is Fundamental. Together we secured \$250,000 in federal funding to bring free books, ebooks, and literacy resources to families across Stamford. Saturday’s event was the first book distribution as part of this grant. In total, 36,000 books will go to 12,000 Stamford students from pre-kindergarten to eighth grade,” said SPEF CEO Lindsay Wyman.

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**About SPEF:** Founded in 1996, the mission of the Stamford Public Education Foundation (SPEF) is to support the students and teachers in Stamford Public School through community collaboration and philanthropy. At the elementary level, the Foundation supports literacy initiatives and provides Service-Learning Mentoring to enrich traditional classroom learning. At the middle and high school levels, its focus is on college and career readiness. For further information, visit [www.spefct.org](http://www.spefct.org).

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