

PRESS RELEASE

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READING RELAY HELD AT GRANDVIEW ELEMENTARY *The Education Alliance Hosts Event for Governor's Day to Serve*

Charleston, W.Va. – On Friday, September 20, 2013, The Education Alliance hosted a Reading Relay at Grandview Elementary School as a part of Governor's Day to Serve. The Reading Relay was a fun activity that exposed students to stories written by West Virginia authors.

The Education Alliance enlisted the help of business and community volunteers to spend time reading to each class. In addition to reading, volunteers helped students complete a writing activity that challenged each child to engage in his/her own community service project.

"We appreciate the opportunity to participate in Governor's Day to Serve. Volunteering is a large part of our mission," said Dr. Amelia Courts, President/CEO of The Education Alliance. "We would like to thank Superintendent Duerring and Dr. Sullivan for welcoming us to the school and our business, community and board partners who volunteered to help make today's event a huge success."

Dr. Erin Sullivan, Principal of Grandview Elementary School, said "I really appreciate The Education Alliance's partnership with our school and was excited when they contacted us to host a reading event. Reading is such an important part of elementary learning. I am very proud of how well our students participated. They truly enjoyed listening to books by West Virginia authors."

"I really enjoyed the opportunity to speak to students at Grandview on the Governor's Day to Serve," said Sammy Gray, Manager of State Affairs for FirstEnergy and Vice Chairman of The Education Alliance's Board of Directors. "I was glad to be able to tell them how important it is to give back to their community and state."

Governor's Day to Serve is a collective effort of West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia to strengthen communities through volunteer service. Governor Earl Ray Tomblin has urged all West Virginians to offer their time and talent to benefit their hometown. Day to Serve projects are taking place around the state from September 15-29, 2013. Last year, volunteers planned and participated in over 400 service projects throughout West Virginia's 55 counties—including highway clean-ups, food drives, and care packages for our troops.

The Day to Serve initiative is led by Volunteer West Virginia, the state's Commission for National and Community Service. For more information, visit www.wv.gov.

About The Education Alliance

Founded in July 1983 as the first statewide public education fund in the nation, The Education Alliance is a private-sector initiative to help businesses understand the importance of financially and resourcefully supporting the state's public schools and to give business a voice in public education that advances policies and practices to continually improve public school student achievement in West Virginia. For more information, visit www.EducationAlliance.org.

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