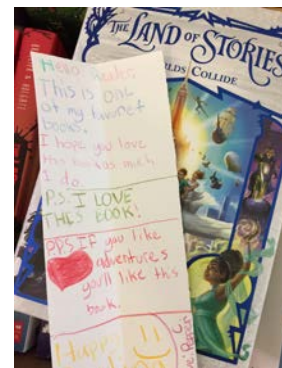


Students, Staff Continue Helping Fire Victims

Students and staff at a number of AUSD schools have continued to organize relief efforts for those affected by the fires up north last month.

Wood Middle School students, for instance, collected clothing for victims of the fires. Edison Elementary school students also collected clothing, including 685 pairs of socks and 378 pairs of underwear. And Alameda High School leadership students coordinated with other relief efforts on the island to collect donations at the school and then get them up to the North Bay.

Bay Farm School students collected more than 700 new and gently used books for students affected by the fires. The Bay Farm students also created handmade bookmarks, each of which had a note or a picture on it. Roxanne Clement, Bay Farm School's teacher/librarian, delivered these "Libraries in a Box" to the Sonoma County Office of Education last weekend.



In recent years, the Bay Farm School Library in a Box program has also provided books to students affected by other natural disasters (such as Hurricane Katrina, Super Storm Sandy, and fires in Riverside) and those in shelters in Alameda and Oakland.

"'Library in a Box' is one of my favorite projects because it is a 'Kids to Kids' authentic project," Clement says. "Children are empowered and truly make a difference in the lives of their peers by giving of themselves and encouraging a love of reading (while perhaps finding some new books they want to read themselves)."

Notes Superintendent Sean McPhetridge, "This time of year, we especially give thanks and feel gratitude to students, staff, and families who have given of themselves to provide relief to those in need."

