



MEDIA RELEASE

OFFICE OF COUNTY MAYOR GLENN JACOBS

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Mayor Jacobs To Participate in Read Across America Day

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.— Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs kicks off Read Across America Week at Halls Elementary School today (March 3) at 8:05 continuing his commitment to help raise awareness surrounding the integral role reading plays in building a foundation for academic success and creating lifelong learners by developing a love of reading in emerging readers.

Mayor Jacobs has long been a strong supporter of literacy in the community, and each year he's trekked across Knox County, reading to students at various schools, libraries and education centers. This year, he plans to spend most of today – dubbed Read Across America Day – at six locations.

“Programs like this and Read City USA are a fun way to promote reading to young audiences,” said Mayor Jacobs. “Reading is fundamental to academic achievement, but it's also crucial for developing other important skills—like critical thinking, empathy, and social etiquette—for outside the classroom as well.”

Read Across America is an annual reading initiative that started by the National Education Association (NEA) to help promote and encourage reading engagement with children in a fun and interactive way.

Here's a list of where Mayor Jacobs will read today:

- Halls Elementary School: 8:05 – 8:35 a.m.
- Maynard Elementary School: 9:00 – 9:30 a.m.
- Fort Sanders Educational Development Center: 10:40 – 11:10 a.m.
- Pond Gap Elementary School: 11:15 – 11:45 a.m.
- Bearden United Methodist Church (Early Enrichment Program): 11:55 a.m. – 12:25 p.m.
- Knoxville Christian School: 1:50 – 2:40 p.m.

Additionally, Mayor Jacobs will track his reading activity for the Read City USA 2025 Challenge “Curious Minds”. Every literacy activity counts toward our community goal of 100,000 missions. To participate, pick up a "Scientists Among Us" gameboard at any Knox County Public Library or log online with the Beanstack Tracker app. Complete five missions to level up and earn a trip to the library's loot box. Unlock a bonus prize if you complete all five levels!

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