# NEWS RELEASE

**Overland Park Rotary Club Donates**

**$600,000+ in Children’s Books to**

**Kansas City Kansas School District**

**Overland Park, KS, 05/11/2017 —** The [**Rotary Club of Overland Park**](https://portal.clubrunner.ca/4405/) has provided the Kansas City Kansas School District ([USD 500](http://www.kcpublicschools.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=171)) with a donation of **75,000 new children’s books.** Forty-nine schools and Head Start Programs in USD 500 received these donated children’s books.

Rotary’s education mission is to strengthen the capacity of communities to support education and literacy for children & adults. This second Children’s Book Drive was an impactful way to provide children in the Kansas City Kansas School District an **educational literacy gift** as students departed for Summer Break. Each book donated included a sticker identifying the donation from the Overland Park Rotary Cluband space for each child to write his/ her name in the book.

The Children’s Book Drive was orchestrated by various Overland Park Rotary Club members in conjunction with [Feed the Children](http://www.feedthechildren.org/)’s new book donation program. The book donation had a monetary equivalent of **over $825,000 in new children’s book titles**; high quality books from publishers such as Disney and Marvel.

**Thursday, May 18, 1 PM**: **Book Drive Community & Press Event**

Please join us for a community/ press event at Kansas City Kansas Community College Technical Center, *6565 State Avenue, Kansas City, KS*. Rotarians, KCKCC Tech Center Staff and VIP’s including: Mayor Mark Holland, Kansas City Chiefs Ambassadors, Mary Jean Eisenhower (CEO, People to People Int’l), Dr. Doris Givens (President, KCK Community College) and Erin Carlstrom (VP of Programs) Feed the Childrenand their film crew.

Thank you to all the Rotary and KC United! members who volunteered time and energies to sort, stack, load and unload **10,000+ cases of children’s books** for the Book Drive.

Special thanks to [**Kansas City Kansas Community College**](http://www.kckcc.edu/academics/academic-divisions/technical-education-center) **Dr. Thomas R. Burke Technical Education Center** for donating a wonderful warehouse space to store the books, on-site security and assistance with distribution and community promotions.

Thanks also to the [**Unified Government of Wyandotte County/ Kansas City, KS**](https://www.wycokck.org/) and Mayor Mark Holland for providing the vehicles, manpower & personnel to distribute the books to USD 500; as well as [Fry-Wagner](https://www.fry-wagner.com/) for donating 200+ extra boxes to package books for distribution.

**About Rotary**

Rotary brings together a global network of volunteers dedicated to tackling the world’s most pressing humanitarian challenges.Rotary connects 1.2 million members of more than 35,000 Rotary clubs in over 200 countries and regions. Rotary members work improves lives at both the local and international levels, from helping families in need in their own communities to working toward a polio-free world. For more information, visit [oprotary.org](http://www.oprotary.org/).

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ROTARY CLUB OF OVERLAND PARK, KS

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