

# TTSD Books On Wheels Expands Delivery to Tualatin

BY DIANE BONICA, TTSD BOOKS ON WHEELS VOLUNTEER

What happens when you live too far from a library? How do you read books during summer vacation? How do you practice all those reading skills you learned in school? How do you build a library within your home? While these questions could not be answered in the past, a solution has now been found thanks to TTSD Books on Wheels.

For the past six summers, students who attend Deer Creek Elementary School have been treated to regular book deliveries at their apartment complexes thanks to Deer Creek on Wheels. This year, all students who attend school in Tualatin will have the opportunity to select free books during summer vacation. Deer Creek on Wheels is welcoming triplet siblings –



Volunteers from TTSD Books on Wheels helping children make their book selections.

Bridgeport, Byrom, and Tualatin Elementary – and undergoing a slight name change: TTSD Books on Wheels will begin operation on June 29th visiting several locations in Tualatin every other Wednesday.

The planned expansion of Deer Creek on Wheels is the work of Andrew Bonica, a teacher at Tualatin High School. As a college

student, he was a volunteer with Deer Creek on Wheels and as a teacher he wished to expand the program. He began his endeavor this past September and secured funding from the Tualatin Schools Foundation, the Tualatin Rotary, and One Ummah Foundation. Working with teachers and students at the high school, Mr. Bonica also ran a successful

book drive this past spring and has over 7,500 books ready for delivery. "We have great books! We have both fiction and non-fiction titles. We have new books as well as the books that were donated. We even have many bilingual books," said Mr. Bonica. "No one will be disappointed this summer."

Although the book program started out with an elementary school focus, it now provides books for babies all the way to adults. When visiting delivery sites, the Deer Creek on Wheels team quickly found out that reading is an ageless activity. Everyone likes a story and so the team quickly began bringing books for readers of all ages. As a volunteer for many summers, Mr. Bonica has seen the joy that books can bring. He also knows that students love seeing their teachers during the summer break. One year several cook books were donated to the program. The teachers thought that no one would want them but they were wrong. Several middle school boys took the cookbooks home so that their moms could make new things for dinner! Summer books are great for the appetite!

The work and the organization of materials are worth the effort when it provides students the books they need to succeed. Reading is a key that unlocks many opportunities. Reading can be an introduction to a future career or passion. Being able to select and keep books is a great step towards a better future.



Andrew Bonica posing with just a few of the books that will be available through the program this year.

This summer, teachers, school staff, and students will meet at Tualatin High School and load their vehicles with books. They will visit Todd Apartments, Rolling Hills Apartments, Martinazi Apartments, Woodridge Village, Herman RD Park, Mountain View Estates, and the lunch sites at Atfaliti Park and The Community Park. Anyone can select and keep books on delivery days. School staff can help with book selection and special book activities are planned during some of the dates. Elementary students will be given a flyer before they leave school in June. It will remind them of the dates; June 29th, July 13th, July 27th, August 10th and August 24th. Apartment deliveries are at 11:00 AM and park lunch sites at noon.

When you read during the summer... you grow as a learner! When you read during the summer... you visit other lands without leaving your chair. When you read during the summer you can choose your own books and read what you want to. TTSD Books on Wheels hopes to flood Tualatin with books.

The more we read, the better we read! Tualatin can be the city with the most reading minutes this summer! It is possible when all kids have books!

If you would like to help TTSD Books on Wheels visit [booksonwheels.weebly.com](http://booksonwheels.weebly.com) and sign up! All the info you need is on the site.

