

Subject: Thank you!

Dear Caroline and the Friends of the Library,

I just wanted to say thank you to all of you for everything you do for the library. Since I've been doing the Afterschool Hangout in the Community Room on Wednesdays, I get to see firsthand how hard you all work to sort and organize the endless stream of donated books to prepare for the sale, not to mention all the work running the sale itself. Running the Hangout also means that I get to reap the benefits of your hard work, since you provide the money for me to buy snacks and craft supplies for the kids who come every Wednesday afternoon.

The Hangout means a lot to me: in middle school, my friends and I were the kinds of kids who frequently got "shushed" when we got too rowdy in the library after school. So being able to provide a safe and welcoming space in the library for kids, with food and snacks and no shushing required, is the highlight of my week. And I couldn't do it without you! You've also funded the books for my Family Book Club, where parents and kids read and discuss books together once a month. The library system usually doesn't have enough copies available for the most of the books the group wants to read, so being able to provide a free copy of the book to each family allows us to choose from a much broader range of options. This year, we've read everything from classics like *The Little Prince* and *Number the Stars* to more recent bestsellers, like *The Lightning Thief*. It's been so much fun to hear the parents and kids discussing books together, and to see them making friends with families from other schools.

Thank you again for all you do to help us provide these programs, and so many more!

I hope you all have a relaxing holiday, and actually get some quiet time to sit and read some books that you didn't have to sort.

Ashley

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