



Renton Rotary president Dan Kellogg helps Cascade Elementary School 3rd-grader David Galaviz look up a word in his new dictionary. This marks the fourth year Renton Rotarians have purchased dictionaries to personally present to more than 1,200 third-graders at Renton School District elementary schools.

Renton Rotary gives the gift of words to more than 1,200 third-graders

September 29, 2009—More than 1,200 students in the Renton School District are receiving the gift of words thanks to members of the Rotary Club of Renton.

This marks the fourth year Rotarians have presented dictionaries to 3rd-graders throughout the district. Cost for the books is more than \$10,000 and will ensure each student has a personal dictionary to use at home.

Rotary members are committed to early childhood education and understand the importance of having students read at grade level by third grade.

Dictionaries are available in classrooms, libraries and on the Internet; the books given by Rotarians are the student's personal property to take home and use with





family members.

Some third-graders who received the dictionaries in the past reported using the books with their siblings and, in some cases, to help teach English to family members.

Rotary members are spreading out throughout the district over the next several weeks to personally present the dictionaries to

students who will write their names in the books on a special sticker inside the front cover.

Other Renton Rotary initiatives includes providing children with new coats in the winter and offering families free healthcare screening and treatment as part of the RotaCare project.