

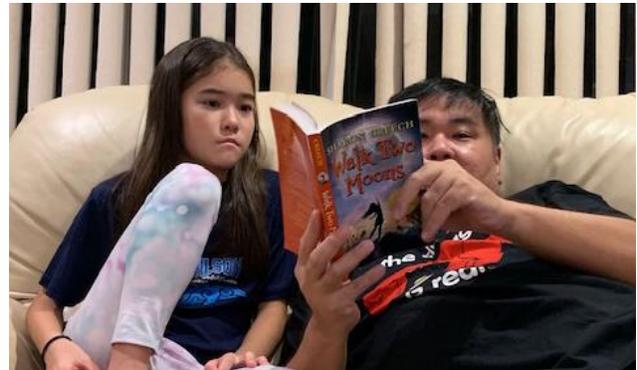
February 28, 2019

Dear Mānoa School 'Ohana:

To commemorate the beloved children's author Dr. Seuss' birthday, Mānoa School will once again be celebrating the joy of literacy with its annual participation in **Read Across America Day**. It's no secret that motivating children to read is an important factor in student achievement and creating lifelong successful readers. Research has shown that children who are motivated and spend more time reading do better in school. This Friday, we'll reaffirm this commitment to reading by welcoming community volunteers who will share their passion and voice with our keiki. Here at Mānoa School, not only do we want to develop strong, capable readers, we want to nurture individuals who **LOVE** books and reading!

So what can families do to nurture a passion of reading? We can start with having them **read more!** Educator Donalyn Miller, author of *"The Book Whisperer: Awakening the Inner Reader in Every Child,"* reports that "students who do not read regularly become weaker readers with each subsequent year.

Meanwhile, their peers who read more become stronger readers – creating an ever-widening achievement gap." Donalyn Miller challenges her students to read forty books a year. How can we help our children reach a lofty goal like that? Start by carving out a quiet place at home and having your child read every night. Where feasible, read alongside your child. I'm currently reading



Sharon Creech's *"Walk Two Moons"* with my ten year old daughter Allison. It's a daddy-daughter routine that Allison looks forward to every night before bed. In addition to being fun, reading with my daughter allows me to "walk the walk." As adults, it's incredibly important that we model the dispositions that we want to instill in them. If this is a part of your family routine, share it with the Manoa School Community. Tag a photo of you and your child reading at either our Twitter or Instagram page! (Site information below.)

As always, thank you for entrusting your children with us here at Mānoa School. We hope to see you next week at the APT Bingo Night!

Sincerely,

Mr. Kusuda

Twitter: @ManoaSchool <https://twitter.com/ManoaSchool>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/manoaschool/>