

### BY VALERIE HOBBS

### Lincoln School Reads Together Begins January 12, 2015

#### Dear Parent/Guardian:

This month our school will be embarking on a special project, an all school book club. Every family will receive a copy of the same book – Valerie Hobbs' *Sheep* – and will be asked to read it at home over the month of January. I am personally asking you to make the time so your family can participate in this special activity.

Reading aloud at home is valuable because it better prepares your child to be an effective reader. But it is also a fun, worthwhile family activity. With this program, we aim to build a community of readers at our school. Everyone – students, parents, teachers, and even administrative staff – will be participating, and we can all reap the many benefits.

Your eldest child has received his/her copy of *Sheep* during Library class where I introduced the program and the book. When the book comes home, you will receive a tailored reading schedule so you can keep up at home. Generally you will be asked to read a chapter or two a night – about 15 minutes per night. A Family Reading Guide will be posted on HomeworkNOW to guide your reading discussions with your children.

In school, your child at Lincoln will be invited to answer daily trivia questions to encourage and reward attentive, aggressive listening. You will soon find that your child will take pride in knowing and anticipating the details of the story. In Library class, there may be various activities that discuss or explore the book. You will want to make sure your family keeps up so your child can be included. Throughout the month, everyone will be talking about *Sheep*!

This is the third year of the "Lincoln School Reads Together" program where children at all grade levels will all be listening to the same book. Strange or daring as that may seem, it actually makes sound educational sense. Reading professionals recommend reading material out loud that is beyond a child's own reading level. And we also believe that you can and should continue reading chapter books with your older children, even when they are able to read by themselves. We have selected a title that can be followed and understood and enjoyed by younger students, but that will still captivate and stimulate older children.

Good luck! I know I will be discussing the adventures of this Border Collie – and how he seeks a home and fulfills his life's purpose. With your help, we can build a Community of Readers at our school.

Mr. Tamburin

School Library Media Specialist

# Reading Schedule for SHEEP

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## January 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY  1 Happy New Years!	FRIDAY 2	SATURDAY 3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Please read Chapter 1 today!	13 Please read Chapter 2 today!	14 Please read Chapter 3 today!	15 Please read Chapter 4 today!	16 Please read Chapter 5 today!!	17
18	19 Please read Chapter 6 today!	20 Please read Chapter 7 today!	21 Please read Chapter 8 today!	Please read Chapter 9 today!	23 Please read Chapter 10 today!	24
25	26 Please read Chapter 11 today!	27 Please read Chapter 12 today!	28 Please read Chapter 13 today!	29 Please read Chapter 14 today!	30 Please read Chapter 15 today!	31