

## **South Hamilton Elementary School Receives \$4,000 Grant from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation to Support Youth Literacy**

The Dollar General Literacy Foundation recently awarded South Hamilton a \$4,000 grant to support youth literacy.

"We are thrilled to be provided with this amazing opportunity to help our children achieve their literacy goals. Purchasing new books will motivate our students to be actively engaged during guided reading. We are grateful to the Dollar General Literacy Foundation for allowing our children to become *Excellent* readers who will always Dare to Dream, Dare to Imagine, Dare to Be a South Hamilton Dragon," said Emily Crider, first grade teacher and Barbara Buhrman, intervention specialist.



The purpose of Project DARE (Dragons Achieve Reading Excellence) is to ensure that all students can read with the assistance of *Excellent* instructional materials. Project DARE is just one part of a school-wide incentive at South Hamilton Elementary School. On May 13, 2016, a school-wide Eric Carle Day was held and culminated with the painting of a South Hamilton Dragon. The dragon is hanging in the hallway and is the focus of our 1,000,000 minute reading incentive program, DARE to Read a Million Minutes, explained Mrs. Buhrman.

This grant will support Project DARE through the purchase of high quality, current guided reading books for 158 students in Kindergarten through second grade at South Hamilton. The purchase of quality guided reading materials will help enable the 158 students in kindergarten through second grade at South

Hamilton Elementary School.

This local grant is part of \$4.5 million in youth literacy grants awarded to approximately 1,000 organizations across the 43 states that Dollar General serves. Given at the beginning of the academic school year, these grants are aimed at supporting teachers, schools and organizations with resources to strengthen and enhance literacy instruction, according to Todd Vasos, Dollar General's chief executive officer.

"By awarding these grants, the Dollar General Literacy Foundation is committed to making a meaningful impact in our local communities," said Vasos. "These grants provide funds to support youth literacy initiatives and educational programs throughout the communities we serve to ensure a successful academic year for students."