



For Immediate Release
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BOOKWORM VENDING MACHINE DONATED BY ATMOS ENERGY

(Odessa, Texas). A new Bookworm Vending Machine has been unveiled at Pease Elementary thanks to our partners at Atmos Energy. The Bookworm Vending Machine will enhance the Bookworms Literacy Program funded by the Education Foundation by offering choice reading to students in Ector County ISD, providing students with endless opportunities to learn and become engaged in reading. The first Bookworm Vending Machine was unveiled in October 2019 at Ross Elementary. This new machine at Pease Elementary brings the count in ECISD up to 10 – **and more on the way!**

“We are so excited to bring the students at Pease a Bookworm Vending Machine and are so grateful to our partners at Atmos Energy for their donation,” states Celeste Potter, Education Foundation Director. *“This is a great compliment to our Bookworms Literacy Program that currently provides students in grades Pre-K through 1st grade with a new book each month. Research shows that books in the home has a positive payoff in improved test scores so any opportunity to get books in the hands of our students is a win.”*

Interim Principal at Pease Elementary states, “We couldn’t be more excited about our book vending machine at Pease! The foundations that are established in reading are built during the PreK-2nd grade years. Thank you, Atmos Energy, for supporting our Mustangs love for reading! Your generosity will not only affect this year or next, but the rest of our students’ academic careers.”

The Bookworm Vending Machine comes to ECISD from Global Vending Group out of Amherst, NY. You can learn more about the story behind the development of this machine at their website:

<http://www.globalvendinggroup.com/book-vending-machine/>.

About Education Foundation of Odessa

The Education Foundation of Odessa is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, tax-exempt, philanthropic organization of citizens who share a vision of enhancing education in ECISD.

The Education Foundation of Odessa provides a new and innovative source of funding to support the school district’s educational plan. The Foundation does not attempt to replace lost state funding, nor does it attempt to take the place of the district’s operating budget. When considering the level of funding required to educate students, the Foundation can expect only to provide funds for those projects and activities that go beyond the normal classroom experience. Such initiatives provide enrichment, research opportunities, teacher training, intervention and prevention strategies and extend the educational effort.

The mission of the Education Foundation is to create opportunities for education in Ector County ISD. Our vision is that every student in ECISD will be school-ready, college-ready, work-ready... WORLD-READY!

Website: www.educationfoundationodessa.com

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