

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **High School Senior On Her Way To Donating 10,000 Books to Underserved Youth**

Palmdale, Calif., (10/10/17) - High school student Mackenzie Krestul's charity, **Code Read**, will hold its third book fair on October 26, 2017, from 7:45am-2:30 pm, at Palm Tree Elementary in Palmdale. Students, who have had the opportunity to earn 'Book Bucks', will now be able to trade them in for new books provided by **Code Read**.

All the kids get 'Book Bucks' throughout the month, which they earn by their good behavior or filling in reading logs in the classrooms. Students can pick any book they want from the collection at the book fair. **Code Read** will give two books, a book bag and a bookmark to each kid at the fair.

Founded in May 2016, **Code Read** is an advocate for literacy in low-income communities, and aims to encourage a lifelong love of reading. Statistics show that children from impoverished households have access to fewer books at home, compared to financially stable peers. As a result, they do not perform as well on achievement tests. By distributing free books to children from low-income families, **Code Read** hopes to provide every child with an equal opportunity to increase their academic growth through reading.

Fueled by her own passion for reading, founder Mackenzie Krestul desires to share its positive impact with those who need it most. With the support of her family,

Mackenzie aims to donate a total of 10,000 books before the end of the 2017-18 school year. With book grants and donations from charities such as First Book and the Nora Roberts Foundation, they have accumulated thousands of new books, book bags and bookmarks for students in need. **Code Read** was very excited to receive an award from the Palmdale School District in June, recognizing their contribution as a community partner. They plan to continue to work with schools in Los Angeles County and hope to reach as many students as possible in their mission to promote literacy and a love of reading.

Mackenzie will be available for interviews at the book fair.

***About Code Read:** 17-year-old student, Mackenzie Krestul, founded Code Read in 2016. Code Read's mission is to provide recreational books to elementary school children in low-income communities. By providing books to children who would otherwise not be able to afford them, we hope to increase literacy and foster a lifetime love of reading.*

***About Palmdale School District:** Established in 1888, Palmdale School District serves 19,500 students across 26 schools in Palmdale, California, ranking it among the largest school districts in the state. Palmdale School District is focused on preparing its students to compete in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and accomplishes this by building excellence through student achievement. Recognizing that a school district's two greatest assets are its students and staff, Palmdale School District is dedicated to cultivating a safe and healthy academic environment where both students and staff can reach their full potential.*

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### **For More Information**

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