



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 14, 2019

CONTACT

Duke Doblick, Director of Fundraising
610-833-6411

DoblickD@literacyaccessfund.org

www.literacyaccessfund.org

**LITERACY ACCESS FUND ANNOUNCES 2019 GRANT AWARD
TO THE COATESVILLE AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY**

CHESTER, PA - Literacy Access Fund, a 501(c)(3), public charity, announces a grant award of \$10,000 to the Coatesville Area Public Library in Coatesville, Chester County, Pennsylvania. Literacy Access Fund secures funding from corporate, foundation, and individual partners in order to provide financial support to underfunded public libraries through a competitive granting process. The goal of the organization is to help libraries provide equal access to quality resources for young learners, regardless of economic factors.

The award was made possible through partnership funding from Republic Bank, headquartered in Philadelphia, PA. The grant will help fund the acquisition of state-of-the-art technology for young children and other library resources.

Nakea Morris, President of the Coatesville Area Public Library's Board of Trustees, noted the Board's gratitude to Literacy Access Fund for the award. "We thank Literacy Access Fund for recognizing how important libraries are to the communities in which they serve. Because of this grant, we are able to continue to provide access to technology and other resources that will enhance the lives of our patrons."

"We are so excited," according to Penny Williams, Executive Director of the Library. "With this grant, we were able to purchase AWE Learning early literacy computers which incorporate educational, STREAM-aligned activities for kids ages pre-K through 5th grade, and BeeBots coding systems that teach and encourage coding, team building, and sequencing for these same age groups. Without this grant from Literacy Access Fund, these purchases would not have been possible.

Deborah B. Sorgi, Ed.D., Chair, Director & President of Literacy Access Fund, shared her thoughts. "Literacy Access Fund is pleased to support the Coatesville Area Public Library's efforts to provide access to current educational technology for the community's socially, culturally, and economically diverse young learners. Ms. Williams' long-term goal to allow children to grow skills and become proficient and discriminating readers is admirable." Dr. Sorgi also noted, "We continue to identify and support deserving public libraries to help their littlest members read and succeed in school and life."

For more information about Literacy Access Fund, visit <http://www.literacyaccessfund.org/> or call 610-833-6411.

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About the Coatesville Area Public Library

The Coatesville Area Public Library provides information, programming, and technology to the residents of the Coatesville area that promote literacy, build community, and enrich lives. For 140 years, the Library's vision has sought to build an informed and engaged community by connecting people with information, ideas, and each other.

About Literacy Access Fund

The mission of Literacy Access Fund is to make literacy a possibility for every child, in every community. The organization supports the public library as a community learning hub and a vital extension of the classroom and awards grants to underfunded public libraries to increase equal access to early literacy skills for young learners. Literacy Access Fund is headquartered in Chester, Pennsylvania, with the ability to support public libraries across the United States.

LITERACY ACCESS FUND®



Pictured, left to right: Anthony Cavaliere, Vice President, Retail Market Manager, Republic Bank; Amelia Mills, Assistant Youth Services Librarian, Coatesville Area Public Library; Kenneth Klein, Vice President/BDO, Store Manager-Media, PA, Republic Bank; Penny Williams, Director and Youth Services Librarian, Coatesville Area Public Library; Meghan Yarnall, Vice President and Commercial Lending Officer, Republic Bank; Duke Doblick, CFRE, Director of Fundraising, Literacy Access Fund.