

MacArthur *Elementary School*

FEBRUARY 2008

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Wayne Wong
Principal

By Carol Scully, PTA Home Reading Club Coordinator
Reading Makes a Difference

"It's up to us to make a difference. It's up to us to care." These are David Saltzman's words from his wonderful book *The Jester Has Lost His Jingle*. Barbara Saltzman, the jester's mom, visited MacArthur Elementary School on January 8 to kick off the first month-long Reading Makes a Difference Read-a-Thon.

MacArthur's goal is to read over 250,000 pages in order to earn jester books and dolls for patients at Miller Children's Hospital. The Jester & Pharley Phund is a non-profit organization uniquely designed to promote literacy and compassion in school communities. "Our students are not reading for prizes. They're reading to benefit children less fortunate than themselves," stated Shelley Arnold, the teacher who brought the Jester Program to MacArthur.

MacArthur also hosted Family Literacy Night on January 16 with a book fair. Special guests at this event included Nancy Manriquez-Dowell, from Long Beach Unified School District Parent Resource Center, Candace Powell from the Long Beach Public Library Children Services, and the jester's mom, Barbara Saltzman.



The Jester's Mom, Barbara Saltzman & Principal, Wayne Wong.