

Hardin Park Gets \$10K Grant for Books

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Wednesday, 21 September 2011 07:50

Hardin Park School has been awarded a School Library Collection Development Grant for \$10,000 to improve the book collection in the school's media center. The grant for Hardin Park was one of 63 awarded to public school libraries statewide by the State Library of North Carolina,

a division of the NC Department of Cultural Resources, using federal funds provided through the Library Services and Technology Act.

"This grant will be extremely valuable in helping us build a stronger book collection that will support the school's curriculum and improve student achievement," said Candice Trexler, media specialist at Hardin Park. "We struggle to maintain a collection that is current and meets student needs, especially as continued cuts in the state budget reduce funding for public schools. Our average book at Hardin Park is 15 years old and we look forward to using this grant to help replace outdated books and to add new books to our collection."

The one year grant can only be used to buy books and cannot be used to replace existing funds. Hardin Park will use its grant to buy books focusing on animals, history, geography, and North Carolina.

A total of \$612,181 in School Library Collection Development Grants was awarded in North Carolina this year. In addition to strengthening book collections in school libraries, the grants are also intended to focus attention on the need to maintain strong collections of books and other printed materials in schools.