



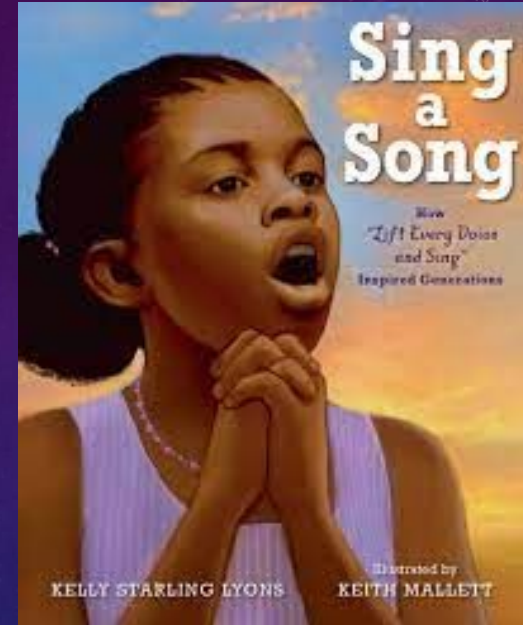
# NETHER PROVIDENCE ELEMENTARY

WSSD School Board Meeting  
March 28, 2022



# NPE Spring Update

- Author Visit - Kelly Starling Lyons



- Read Across America

**Read Across America Night!**

<p><b>Ms. Lori's Stories</b> Lori Pheggen-Webb, Children's Librarian at H. K. Purness Public Library in Washington reads <i>I Really Like Soup</i> by Mia Williams</p>	<p><b>Kiya! Wolf Can't Catch a Break!</b> NPE 2nd Grade Teacher Mrs. Diana reads <i>Kiya! Wolf Can't Catch a Break!</i> by Corey Rosen Schwartz, Dan Santat (Illustrator)</p>	<p><b>Inspiration for Young Artists</b> NPE's Best Friend Miss Jackie reads <i>My Dog is as Smelly as Dirty ...</i> by Renald Pison</p>
<p><b>A Hee Haw Good Time</b> Jaime Munley, Cantor, sings and NPE alumni free reads the story <i>Wonky Donky</i> by Craig Smith, illustrated by Katz Cowley</p>	<p><b>A Book for Cool Cats</b> Ms. Daub-Lombard, NPE's instrumental teacher, reads <i>Dizzy</i> by Jahan Vivier, Sean Quire (Illustrator)</p>	<p><b>The Gift of Friendship</b> Washington-Swainmore School District Superintendent Dr. Mercedes reads <i>The Giving Tree</i> by Shel Silverstein</p>
<p><b>A Tale of an Epic Battle</b> NPE Reading Specialist Mrs. Theresa reads <i>The Legend of Rock, Paper, Scissors</i> by ...</p>	<p><b>HamFests Don't Throw Away Your Shot</b> NPE 3rd Grade Teacher Mrs. ...</p>	<p><b>Never Dim your Light</b> NPE 3rd Grade Teacher Mrs. ...</p>

# NPE Spring Update Cont.

- STEAM Night
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Focus Topic: Home Grown Poems



# Home-Grown Poems

School-Sourced Poetry at NPE

Inspired by Kwame Alexander (poet, educator, author)

"The power of poetry is that you can take these emotionally heavy moments in our lives, and you can distill them into these palatable, these digestible words and lines and phrases that allow us to be able to deal and cope with the world," he says. "I think it's one of the reasons why young people love reading novels in verse. It's because, on a very concrete level, it's not that many words so it's not that intimidating to me. There's so much white space."



Kwame Alexander.

*Donnie Biggs/Courtesy of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt*

At NPE, we've transformed the idea of community-sourced poetry into school-sourced poetry.

Our “homegrown” poems are invitations

- to think and write
- to share
- to help individuals see themselves as thinkers/writers/artists with something of value to contribute.
- to offer their words and/or artistic expression
- to join the school community in a shared experience



### **NPE's Homegrown Poetry Team**

Leslee Wagner, 4th Grade Teacher

Mary Kochanowicz, Reading Specialist

Mary Kate Peterson, 5th Grade Teacher

Dave Mendell, Teacher of the Gifted



## **Our first homegrown poem at NPE was written in February, 2022.**

A prompt was provided to teachers as an optional activity/assignment.

Students responded to the prompt and were encouraged, if interested, to contribute their favorite words, original phrases, or entire pieces of writing to the NPE Homegrown Poetry Team.

From these voluntary submissions, a variety of students' writing pieces were selected, and a single collective poem was arranged using their words.

- we received submissions from 114 students in Grades 2-5
- our poem, *NPE Reads*, was created using words from 33 different students
- additional students from 8 different classrooms participated by decorating book covers
- one of our 5th grade students created, drew, and illustrated an original design to be incorporated as our NPE Homegrown Poetry logo



# N.P.E. Reads

## You will need

- a chromebook, notebook, a piece of paper, or class chart paper
- a pencil
- 15 minutes to write in a quiet place



**Imagine holding a new or favorite book in your hands,**

**It feels like...**

**It smells like...**

**It reminds me of...**

**Describe what is waiting for you inside this book:**

**There are...**

**There might be...**

**I might find...**





**When my teacher reads the last page or when I finish a really good book,**

**I wish...**

**I wonder...**

**I feel...**

**Getting lost in a book  
looks like...  
sounds like...  
makes me feel...**

## NPE Reads

1. Look at your ideas (words, phrases or sentences) that you wrote. Circle your favorite lines.

Younger classes: Look at the chart paper where your teacher collected your ideas. Which phrases or sentences do you or your class like the best?

2. Decide if you or your class wants to share your ideas with the school.

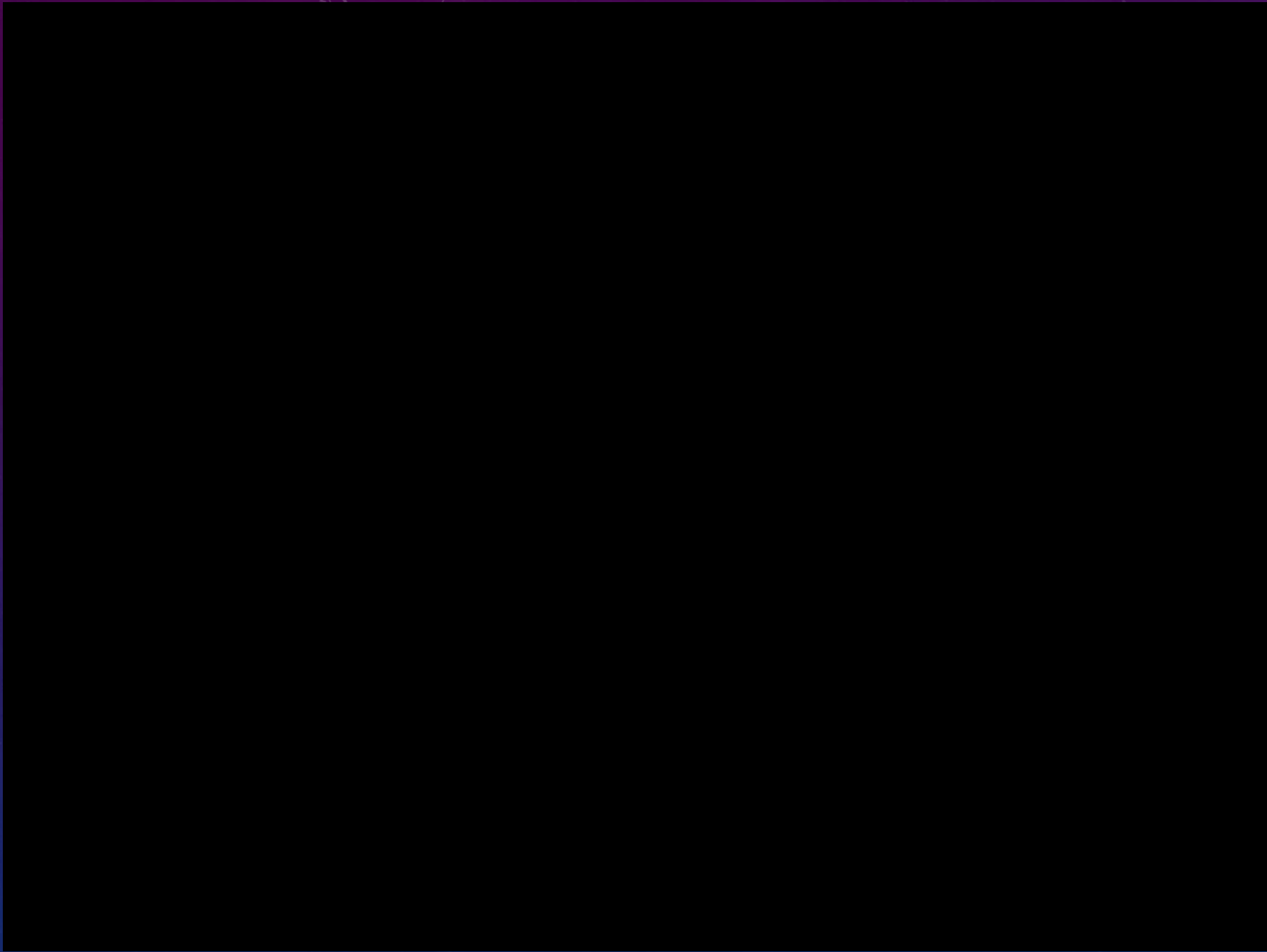
3. Submit your ideas.

4. All submissions will be read and considered, but not all submissions will be used. Look for another prompt in April!

**Deadline: February 21, 2022.**

**HAPPY WRITING!**





## Coming soon...

We are currently planning a prompt for our next Homegrown Poem later this spring.

Our plan is to provide this new prompt to the writers and artists of all ages at N.P.E. **Students, faculty, and staff** will be invited to contribute.

Creating homegrown poems is a way to bring our school community together. It is a way to highlight and celebrate individual voices and artwork and to create something wonderful!

