Dear Parents,

As you and your children prepare for summer vacation, we want to encourage you to keep reading at the top of your priority list. I have partnered with the Kansas State Department of Education to launch the *'Read Kansas Read!'* summer reading program to keep Kansas children reading during summer months.

Substantial research shows that children who read during the summer maintain and strengthen their literacy skills while those children who don't can find themselves falling behind their peers. I hope you take time to learn about this fun summer program.

Happy reading!

Sam Brownback
Kansas Governor

How do we participate in the program?

Participating in the program is free and easy. Simply go to your local library or visit www.ReadKansasRead.ks.gov.

Why participate in the program?

It's a fun way to motivate children to read during the summer. Plus – the top two readers from each of the 10 Kansas State Board of Education districts and their families will join the Governor and First Lady in August for a special celebration at Cedar Crest, the Governor's mansion in Topeka. Freddy's Frozen Custard will cater the event and numerous special guests and mascots from Kansas universities and colleges also will attend.

Thanks to the wonderful partners who make this program possible:

The Kansas State Department of Education, The University of Kansas, Kansas State University, Wichita State University, Pittsburg State University, the Kansas Association of Broadcasters, the State Library of Kansas, the Kansas Board of Regents, MetaMetrics and Freddy's Frozen Custard and Steakburgers