

For immediate release:

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Atmos Energy to award \$5,000 to Plano Family Literacy summer program

Plano, Texas, April 14, 2009 - The Plano Independent School District Education Foundation will receive \$5,000 from Atmos Energy for Plano Family Literacy's summer program during a check presentation on April 27, 9:30 a.m. at the Family Literacy Center. A representative from Atmos Energy will be on hand to read to families and present the \$5,000 award.

"Atmos Energy is excited to fund Plano Family Literacy's summer program," said Miriam Raphael, manager of public affairs for Atmos Energy. "Atmos Energy believes in improving the quality of life in the communities we serve, and this program allows us to support Collin County families in a meaningful way."

Plano Family Literacy's summer program provides continuity in learning for at-risk families that are unable to afford any type of organized program during the summer. The goal for this six week summer program will be to provide continued educational programming in a relaxed, fun and motivating environment.

"Because we believe the parent is the first teacher in a child's life, we are committed to teaching parents how to learn with their children," said Dr. Cathy Galloway, executive director of student and family services for Plano ISD. "Our summer program will be designed around that concept. Families will have fun while learning life skills and participating in group activities."

Funds made available through Atmos Energy will be used to staff the summer program, provide classroom supplies for teachers to develop education centers, provide materials for participants to use during classroom time and fund two field trips.

Plano ISD Education Foundation President Ralph Stow said, "This program will support thirty to thirty-five families this summer and we are privileged to have Atmos Energy partnering with us to fund this vital program."

About Atmos Energy

Atmos Energy Corporation, headquartered in Dallas, is the country's largest natural-gas-only distributor, serving about 3.2 million natural gas distribution customers in more than 1,600 communities in 12 states from the Blue Ridge Mountains in the East to the Rocky Mountains in the West. Atmos Energy also provides natural gas marketing and procurement services to industrial, commercial and municipal customers primarily in the Midwest and Southeast and manages company-owned natural gas pipeline and storage assets, including one of the largest intrastate natural gas pipeline systems in Texas. Atmos Energy is a Fortune 500 company. For more information, visit www.atmosenergy.com.



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About The Plano ISD Family Literacy

The Plano Family Literacy Program is a support program through Plano ISD's Family and Student Services Department. It works in conjunction with the district and other community partners. The Plano Family Literacy Program is housed at the Allan K. and Carolyn H. Bird Education Center at 1300 19th Street in Plano and coordinated by Jane Lilliston. For more information contact 469.752.2253.

About The Plano ISD Education Foundation

The Plano ISD Education Foundation is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization raising private dollars to help Plano schools remain the best in the nation. In 2007-2008 the Foundation generated more than \$1.1 million in support of important Plano ISD improvement efforts. To learn more about the Plano ISD Education Foundation, contact executive director Monica Shortino at 469.752.8091.

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