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# The Judge In The Hat:

## The Superior Court Celebrates 2022 Read Across America

### *Judges Assure Students That They Are Not A Cat*

On Friday, March 4, 2022, 19 judicial officers from the Santa Clara County Superior Court will visit Eliot Elementary students and share their favorite stories in celebration of Read Across America. The Superior Court has leveraged the use of teleconference technology to take this program to an online format, allowing our judicial officers to have an opportunity to reach students that may not have otherwise been possible. Eliot Elementary, located in Gilroy, serves nearly 500 students in grades TK- 5. The judicial officers of Santa Clara County Superior Court are proud to share their love of reading with every one of these students.

“We are extremely excited to have the judicial officers read to our Eliot students and celebrate Read Across America. Having part of the community share the joy of reading with our students promotes the love of books and literacy. This also introduces our students to these positive role models and allows them to learn about their careers and the fascinating court system. We are grateful for this opportunity!” said Eliot Elementary School Principal Maricela Rivera.

Across the country, thousands of schools, libraries, and community centers participate by bringing together children, teenagers, and books to celebrate literacy. Our judicial officers will be reading stories that celebrate diversity, educate about the justice system, provide positive encouragement, or simply bring together community. The judicial officers have personally selected and purchased the books, which will also be donated to the school.

Hon. Julia Alloggiamento, Chair of the Community Outreach Committee, noted, “Every year our judges look forward to this event. We have an opportunity to positively connect with young students and show them the diversity of our bench – men and women, various races and ethnicities, ages, and backgrounds. The children get to see the person behind the black robe and ideally be inspired that they can achieve whatever they want no matter who they are. While we certainly hope to return to an in-person event next year, we are grateful to be able to expand our range and reach schools further from our courthouse through this virtual event.”

