Arkansas Department of Education

Johnny Key, Commissioner

Transforming Arkansas to lead the nation in student-focused education

December 12, 2019

CONTACT: Kimberly Mundell
PHONE: (501) 683-4788
kimberly.mundell@arkansas.gov

Reading, Computer Science Initiatives to Provide Books to Libraries Around State

LITTLE ROCK — The Arkansas Department of Education's Office of Computer Science is pleased to announce the continuation of its cross initiative program supporting both the Arkansas Computer Science Initiative and the Arkansas Reading Initiative for Student Excellence.

In the first two years of this program, approximately 900 K-8 public school libraries received coding devices and coding-related books. For 2019, additional computer science and computing-related books will be distributed to public school libraries around the state.

"My co-author, Dr. Cassie Barlow, and I are so proud of this project," said Sue Norrod, co-author of *Journey Through the Unified Field*. "Our book has a strong female character role model and helps girls see themselves engaging in careers such as cyber security while understanding the science of the world around them. We are happy that the Arkansas Computer Science Initiative has chosen it as one of the books being provided to libraries across the state, and we know that Arkansas students will find Emma's story entertaining and engaging."

Public school libraries that serve students in grades K-5 will receive a copy of *Who Says Women Can't Be Computer Programmers? The Story of Ada Lovelace*; *Hello Ruby: Adventures in Coding*; *Secret Coders (Volume #1)*; and *Journey Through the Unified Field*. Public school libraries that serve students in grades 5-8 will receive a copy of *Secret Coders (Volume #1)* and *Journey Through the Unified Field*.

First Lady Susan Hutchinson selected *Who Says Women Can't Be Computer Programmers? The Story of Ada Lovelace* when she recently read to third-graders at Ridge Road Elementary School in the North Little Rock School District.

"Kids of all ages – from pre-readers to high-schoolers – can learn to code, which helps visualize abstract concepts, apply knowledge to real-world situations, and makes learning fun and creative," Ms. Hutchinson said. "Coding teaches important academic skills and builds crucial soft skills like

perseverance and organization, which applies to so many things in life. *Who Says Women Can't Be Computer Programmers? The Story of Ada Lovelace* reminds us that dreams and imaginations can often help guide future careers and also that girls have the power to be anything they want to be, especially within fields of science, math, technology, and engineering."

Books will be mailed directly from the ADE Office of Computer Science to public school libraries over the next few weeks.
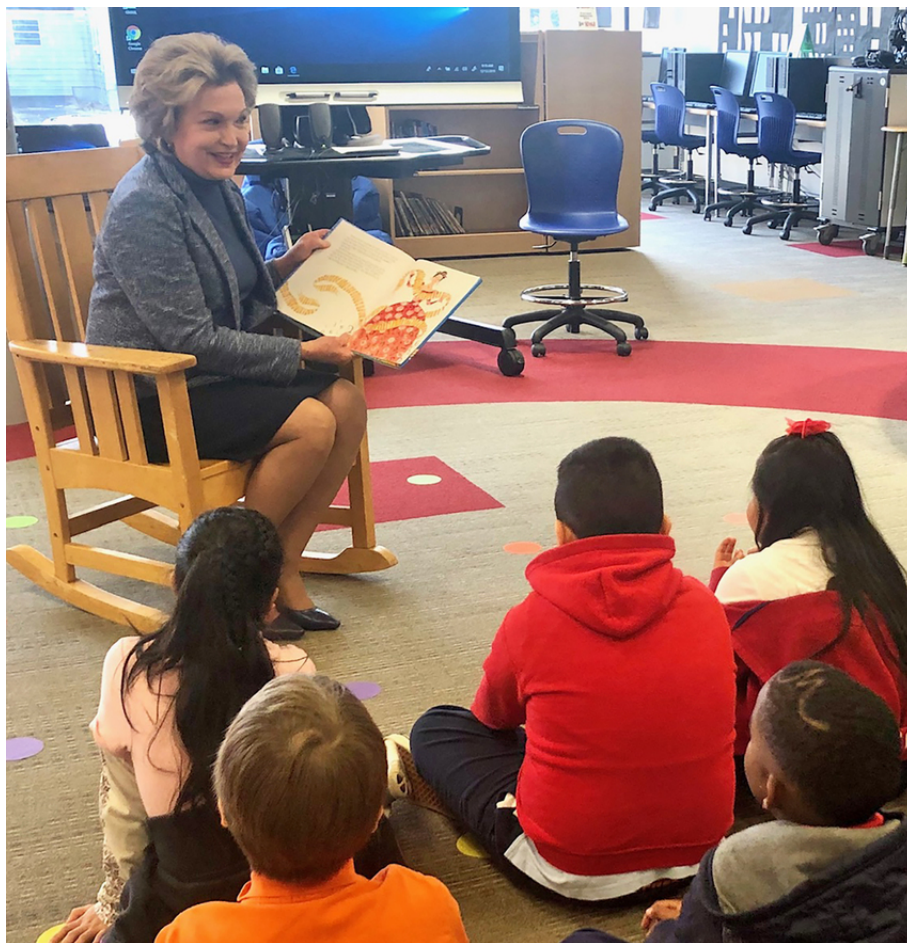
Computer Science Education Week

Computer Science Education Week is from December 9-15, 2019. Arkansas is releasing computer science announcements throughout the week. To see the announcements that are made, visit the ADE computer science webpage at http://bit.ly/ARCSedWeek.

Follow us on Twitter @ArkansasEd.
Like us on Facebook at Arkansas Department of Education.
Follow us on Instagram at arkansas_ed.

First Lady Susan Hutchinson reads *Who Says Women Can't Be Computer Programmers? The Story of Ada Lovelace* to third-graders at Ridge Road Elementary School in the North Little Rock School District.

ArkansasEd.gov

Arkansas Department of Education • Four Capitol Mall • Little Rock, AR 72201 • 501-682-4475

Share this email:

Manage your preferences I **Opt out** using **TrueRemove®**

Got this as a forward? **Sign up** to receive our future emails.

View this email **online**.

Four Capitol Mall
Little Rock, AR I 72201 US

This email was sent to kimberly.mundell@arkansas.gov.
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

emma