

Students in Barrow read 23,655 books

BARROW — Students at Ipalook Elementary School in Barrow read 23,655 books during November, and that worked out to 829,336 pages.

The goal of 10,000 books for the month of was reached before the second week ended. For the whole month, students, teachers, aides and community members were reading.

The goals of the Reading Marathon were to increase children's experiences with books, to bring about positive attitudes toward reading, increase reading abilities and to get children "hooked on books." Ipalook Elementary met all the goals.

The rules gave every student the opportunity to succeed. Any child could read any book, and books read to non-readers would count, both for the listener and the reader.

Children were awarded prizes for reading 10, 25, 50 books or more; for the longest book; the most difficult; and the most different types. Prizes were donated by community businesses and organizations, in addition to the grant money awarded by the school district. Parents and other adults were also awarded prizes for reading achievement.

Feedback from the community shows that there is more excitement than ever. Parents who had never read books before to and with their children are sitting down every night to do so.