



NEWS RELEASE

Clayton County Public Schools

Department of Communications

For Immediate Release

Contact: Jacqueline Evans
CCPS Communications
Telephone: (770) 473-2735

February 22, 2011

Noted author to visit North Clayton Middle School

Sharon Flake to 'chat and chew' with students

JONESBORO – Celebrated author Sharon Flake will visit with students at North Clayton Middle School (NCMS) for *Read Across America Day* on Wednesday, March 2. Flake is noted for her stories that address the challenges African-American youth face as they transition through adolescence. Her finesse in connecting to the feelings and issues that surround students has made her books hugely popular. The author will spend the school day with students in separate sessions for participating in book discussions and signings.

Who: Sharon Flake, noted author of young adult fiction and poetry

What: Read Across America with author Sharon Flake

When: March 2, 2011
8 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Where: North Clayton Middle School
5517 West Fayetteville Road- College Park, GA 30349

Flake has won a variety of literary awards including the Coretta Scott King Honor Award/John Steptoe Award for new authors (1999); New York Public Library Top Ten Books for the Teen Age selection (1999); the Coretta Scott King Honor designation (2002); the Coretta Scott King Honor Award (2006); and the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) Best Books for Young Adults designation (2006).

Some of Flake's books include *The Skin I'm In*; *Money Hungry*; *Begging for Change*; *Who Am I without Him?: Short Stories about Girls and the Boys in Their Lives*; and *Bang!*

NCMS teacher Shelia Gilliam organized Flake's visit to the school because students from the school's Girls Leadership Academy are fans of Flake's books. Students participated in fundraisers to support the visit.

For more information, contact Rochelle Jacobs, NCMS media specialist at 770-907-5105.