



# Glenbard Township High School District 87

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## **Books are Bewitching theme of school library event**

Students at Glenbard South High School have a wonderful opportunity to explore the joy of reading. On Thursday, Oct. 27, the Glen Ellyn high school will present “Books are Bewitching” as part of its Brake for Books program.

Diane Mankowski, Glenbard South’s media center director, received a grant from the Illinois Reading Council to expand the school’s Brake for Books. Last year’s Brake for Books was presented to juniors, but this year it will include a new, similar event for freshmen.

This event was the result of a planning session that began with the junior English teachers in summer 2004. Their goal, much like that of the library staff, is to inspire students to become lifelong readers.

This event integrates the culture of reading on another level, as Glenbard South seeks to enhance students' achievement above the state standard on the Prairie State Achievement Exam reading test.

Books are Bewitching will feature three double-period sessions where students will select, in advance, two book talks to attend. The library is rearranged and redecorated to promote this event.

The book talks include: “Batty” Over New Books! (what’s new in hardcover & paperback); Masters of Mayhem (true crime & mysteries); Wild Things (science fiction & fantasy); and Spellbinding True Tales (biographies & nonfiction).

Glenbard South's library staff is working with representatives from Anderson's bookstore in Naperville and Downers Grove. Sessions are led by three speakers from Anderson's bookstore and Noreen Malone, assistant librarian at Glenbard South, who create booklists for each session. At the beginning of each session, speakers distribute bookmarks that have been created to include a list of books each speaker features. During the session, students can note which books interest them. Anderson's brings new copies of these books and other titles for students to browse and purchase during the event.

Each session's schedule features a 20-minute booktalk followed by a 10- to 15-minute period to browse the new books and talk to the speakers. Then, students attend their second book talk, followed by time to browse, purchase or check out books.

Once students have finished reading their books, they complete a short review with a star rating that will be placed inside the library's copy of the book for display purposes and for other students to read when they are browsing in the library.

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