

# From the community: Avoca West Students Take Part in Read-a-Thon to Raise Funds for Innovation Grants



Avoca West students read as part of the school's first Read-a-thon. (Posted by Helen Lucaitis, Community Contributor)

By **Community Contributor Helen Lucaitis**

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**O**n Martin Luther King, Jr. day, some Avoca West students found time to read to help raise money for new Innovation grants for teachers at Avoca West Elementary school in Glenview. For 14 days, students have been reading and recording their minutes, after accepting pledges from family and friends during the winter break.

"The best part is that 100 percent of the money raised will be used to fund the grants, which are sponsored by the Avoca Parent Teacher Council," said Natalie Anthony, Read-A-Thon Committee member.

New to the 2016-2017 academic year, teachers may apply for grants, which can be used for enrichment and resources to improve the quality of education in their classrooms.

The Read-a-Thon will culminate in a visit and book signing by author Jen Cullerton Johnson, who wrote *Seeds of Change: Wangari's Gift to the World*.

The Read-a-Thon Committee hopes to raise \$1500 from students' efforts.