



School Spotlight

Reading with Purpose at Santa Ana High School

At Santa Ana High School in Santa Ana, CA, students are more excited about reading than ever, thanks to the dedication and creativity of teacher librarian, Ms. Phan and library technician, Ms. Zepeda. The library has seamlessly woven literacy into students' daily routines by leveraging fun incentives, friendly competition, and a unique reading-for-community-service program.

Reading for Community Service

In an innovative approach, the Santa Ana High School Library has integrated reading with community service. Alongside traditional volunteer activities, students can earn community service hours by logging their reading and writing reviews in Beanstack. This initiative sets a powerful precedent, reinforcing the value of reading within the school community.

Incentives that Inspire

The library holds quarterly prize drawings for top students and teachers to keep motivation high. Rewards have included cozy blankets, lanyards, mugs, special Beanstack buttons, and tote bags. Bookmarks featuring QR codes pointing to their Beanstack site make logging minutes even easier.

The ultimate incentive? The library awards a graduation stole to the top reader of the senior class each year—an honor inspired by the school's existing community service recognition program.

Building a Reading Culture

The impact is clear: students and teachers are more engaged in reading and logging their minutes. Teachers enjoy the competitive spirit, and the top reader award has created a buzz among the senior class. Students frequently check their rankings, eager to see who will take home the prestigious stole at graduation.

Santa Ana High School's creative approach demonstrates how Beanstack can be a powerful tool for fostering a love of reading and strengthening school culture.

