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January 13, 2010	Girard Middle School	Lowe's Companies, Inc.
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Girard Middle School RECEIVES LOWE'S GRANT FOR the Media Center \$5,000 will provide funding for "*Girard Enjoys Reading*"

Dothan, AL – Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation has awarded a \$5,000 Toolbox for Education grant to **Girard Middle School** in **Dothan** for **purchasing books in the Media Center**. **Girard Middle School** is one of more than 450 schools or parent organizations to be awarded a Lowe's Toolbox for Education grant for parent-initiated school improvement projects benefiting K-12 public education across the United States during the 2009-2010 school year.

The Girard Middle School students will benefit significantly from this award through the acquisition of age-appropriate, engaging, and relevant books in its Media Center. With the additional book purchased through the grant, the students at GMS will read the equivalent of 25 books during the school year. The project is scheduled to be completed in April 2010.

"Through our Toolbox for Education grant program, Lowe's recognizes parent-initiated efforts to enrich the lives of children in our communities," said Larry D. Stone, chairman of Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation. "By supporting schools like **Girard Middle School**, we are contributing to a cause that's important to our customers and employees, and we're also helping to build a stronger foundation for the children who will be tomorrow's employees, homeowners and community leaders."

Launched in partnership with PTO Today, a leading organization serving parent-teacher groups, the Toolbox for Education program has provided more than \$17.7 million through more than 4,400 grants since its inception five years ago. Grants of up to \$5,000 are available to public schools in the U.S. for a wide range of improvement projects and large schools or school districts may be eligible to receive Toolbox grants up to \$100,000 for school improvement initiatives. All K-12 public schools in the United States are eligible. Parent groups may apply by visiting www.toolboxforeducation.com.

Since its inception in 1957, Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation has helped communities nationwide through employee volunteerism and financial contributions.

About Lowe's

Lowe's is a proud supporter of Habitat for Humanity International, American Red Cross, United Way of America, and the Home Safety Council, in addition to numerous non-profit organizations and programs that help communities across the country. In 2008, Lowe's and the Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation together contributed more than \$25 million to support community and education projects in the United States and Canada. Lowe's also encourages volunteerism through the Lowe's Heroes program, a company-wide employee volunteer initiative. Lowe's is a FORTUNE® 50 company with fiscal year 2008 sales of \$48.2 billion and has more than 1,700 stores in the United States and Canada. For more information, visit Lowes.com/community.

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