

Patricia (Paddy) Boyt

*Eastern Heights Elementary
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Paddy Boyt has been an EL (English Language) teacher for over 30 years and is currently teaching 4th and 5th grade EL students at Eastern Heights Elementary in St. Paul, MN. She holds an MA in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) from the Middlebury Institute of International Studies (Monterey, CA), a K-12 MN EL license, and has experience teaching overseas (2 years in Peace Corps, Poland and 5 years in Istanbul, Turkey) and in the Saint Paul Public Schools (23 years). These experiences instilled in her a strong desire to create and maintain a library with inclusive, engaging and culturally relevant texts for her multi-lingual, multi-cultural students, regardless of their reading level. She believes it is crucial to impart a life-long love of reading through a variety of genres (memoir, graphic novels, realistic fiction, fantasy, historical fiction) which her Somali, Hmong, Karen, and Spanish-speaking students can easily access and share with their friends and family.

While this library is designed primarily for independent reading, we will use these texts for read-alouds, book clubs, and poetry and author studies throughout the academic year. Paddy believes fervently in the power of public education and is honored to work alongside colleagues who share her vision that all students deserve to see themselves in the books they read.