

**The Pitney Bowes Foundation** has awarded a \$7,500 grant to SVAB for its Reading Enrichment Program. The grant will be used to purchase engaging books that will be read aloud to classes and then donated to the classroom libraries. During the most recent school year, more than 10,000 books were donated through Reading Enrichment Volunteers to classrooms throughout Bridgeport.

Steve Viores, Pitney Bowes Enablement Project Manager, led a *Share the Message: Read!* project at Columbus School on January 14<sup>th</sup> in partnership with SVAB and Reading Is Fundamental. Volunteers read “A Balloon for Isabel” to the students and helped them craft a bookmark and choose a Reading Is Fundamental book to take home. Pitney Bowes also donated classroom supplies which will continue to supplement the students’ academic initiatives. This Dedication to Education project was part of Pitney Bowes’ celebration of 100 Days to their 100<sup>th</sup> Year anniversary.

We are grateful for this grant and for the wonderful Pitney Bowes employees who volunteer in our schools, including Steve Viores, who also serves as member of SVAB’s Board of Directors.

