Thanks to the generous donation of author, Dr. Jeffrey Bennett, and the distribution efforts of the Jared Polis Foundation and the Colorado PTA, “The Wizard Who Saved the World”, children’s book, will soon be arriving at the 1,050 elementary schools libraries throughout Colorado.

The “Wizard Who Saved the World” is Dr. Bennett’s latest book and complements the adventures of Max the dog series designed specifically for the elementary grade level. This series includes: “Max Goes to the Moon”, “Max Goes to Mars”, and “Max Goes to Jupiter.”

In 2011, the adventures of Max the dog series was selected for the program “Story Time In Space” and read to students by astronauts from the Discovery shuttle flight deck after visiting the International Space Station.

Known as the lead author of introductory astronomy textbooks in the United States, Dr. Bennett’s books reach children in a way which conveys accurate astronomy. “I decided that my goal would be for the books to connect with kids on three levels: education, perspective, and inspiration.”

Dr. Bennett has a Ph.D. in Astrophysics from the University of Colorado, Boulder. His experience in research and education includes teaching at every level from preschool through graduate school; proposing and helping to develop both the Colorado Scale Model Solar System on the UC Boulder campus and the Voyage Scale Model Solar System on the National Mall in Washington DC; and serving two years as a Visiting Senior Scientist at NASA Headquarters where he helped create a number of programs designed to build stronger links between the research and education communities. He is the lead author of college textbooks in astronomy, astrobiology, mathematics, and statistics.

Look for “The Wizard Who Saved the World” coming to your elementary school library and join young Diego who dreams of using magic to solve the world’s problems. The scientific focus of this book is on global warming and potential future sources of energy.

The Colorado PTA commends Dr. Jeffery Bennett on his most generous donation to our schools, the Jared Polis Foundation for subsidizing the cost of distribution to our schools, and the many PTA volunteers for assisting in this venture.

PTA PARENTING TIPS CORNER
A continuing series of helpful parenting tips from Colorado PTA

TIP # 6 –
CHOICES, CHOICES . . .
DECISIONS, DECISIONS

Life is made up of opportunities and challenges. The ability to examine and handle difficult or challenging situations makes the difference in achieving success.

Give your child opportunities to make decisions. Allowing your child to decide between wearing a red or a blue shirt, for instance, prepares him or her to make larger decisions. Gradually increase the number and types of choices he or she is allowed to make. Whenever possible, allow your child to choose which family chores will be his or her responsibility. The more children make decisions, the better able they will be to deal with the opportunities and challenges in life.

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PARENTING TIPS: You can help your child make the most of his or her opportunities and challenges and become a successful decision-maker.

Steps in decision making:
1. Recognize that a decision needs to be made.
2. Gather information to help make the decision.
3. Identify the choices available and examine the potential outcomes of each.
4. Consider how each possible decision fits in with your personal values and goals.
5. Recognize your reasons for choosing certain alternatives.
6. Make a decision.