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## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **Author Katie McKy Visits Ashwaubenon Elementary Schools**

**Ashwaubenon, WI – October 4, 2011** – All Ashwaubenon elementary students, grades Kindergarten through 5, will have the opportunity to work up close and personal with author Katie McKy this month. Cormier, Pioneer, and Valley View Elementary Schools will welcome the author of Pumpkin Town, Wolf Camp, and It All Began with a Bean to spend several days working with students and staff in small and large group settings. Students will be engaged in exciting writing opportunities.

Katie McKy will kick off her visit at each school with an interactive storytelling assembly in which students and staff alike will have a chance to be involved in making one of her popular stories come alive. Her entertaining and inspiring shows are sure to get the students motivated for reading and writing. McKy will visit Cormier and Pioneer schools October 4<sup>th</sup> through October 7<sup>th</sup>. She will then return to Ashwaubenon to work with Valley View students October 17<sup>th</sup> through October 20<sup>th</sup>.

Ashwaubenon students will have two opportunities to work with Katie McKy in small groups in a writing workshop setting. The first workshop will focus on writing stamina. McKy teaches students how to stay focused on their writing during all different types of distractions. That focus aligns well with what students have been learning in their classrooms about building reading stamina. The second workshop will provide students and staff with knowledge and practice in supporting their view point using both positive and negative facts about a topic. Student writers will learn how to think from another person's perspective in order to state their case and convince others to agree with them. Katie McKy embeds staff development throughout her workshops.

The staff and students at Cormier, Pioneer, and Valley View would like to thank the Ashwaubenon Education Foundation as well as the Pioneer and Valley View Parent-Teacher Organizations for their generous donations to fund Katie McKy's visit to Ashwaubenon. This will be an incredible learning experience for everyone involved as McKy demonstrates not only her expertise in writing, but her passion and love for the craft.

For more information, please contact Sheryl Stathas, Reading Specialist, at 920-492-2935 extension 3043, or sstathas@ashwaubenon.k12.wi.us.

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