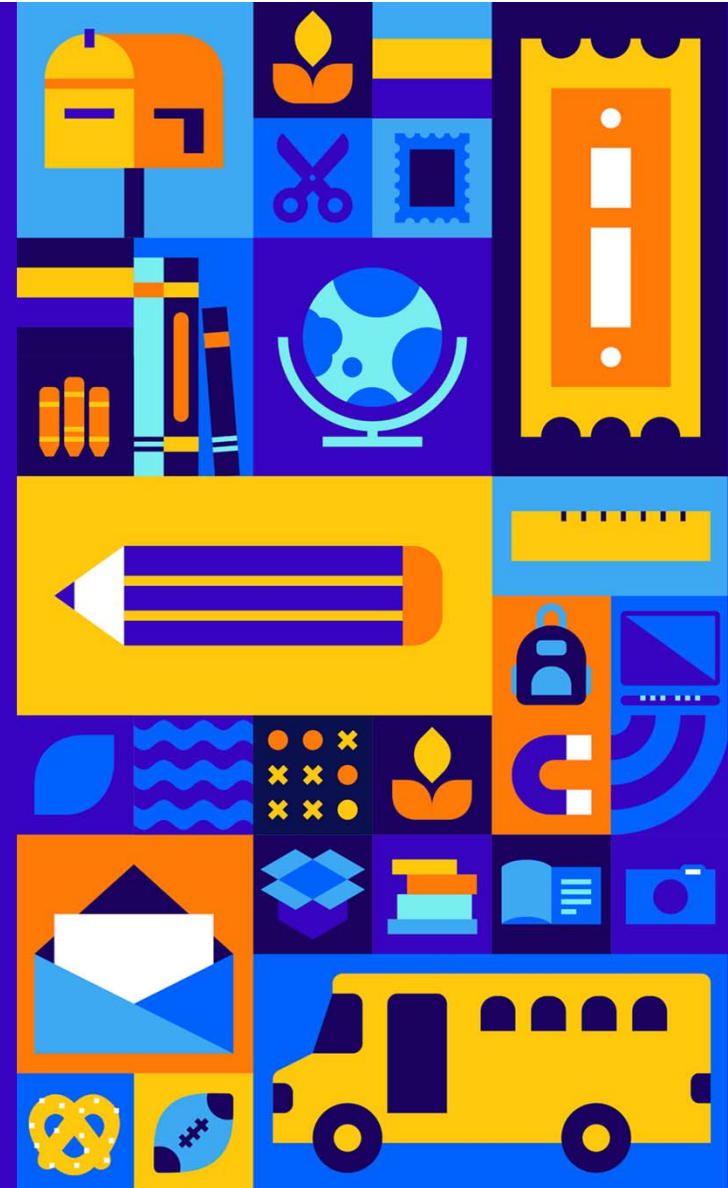


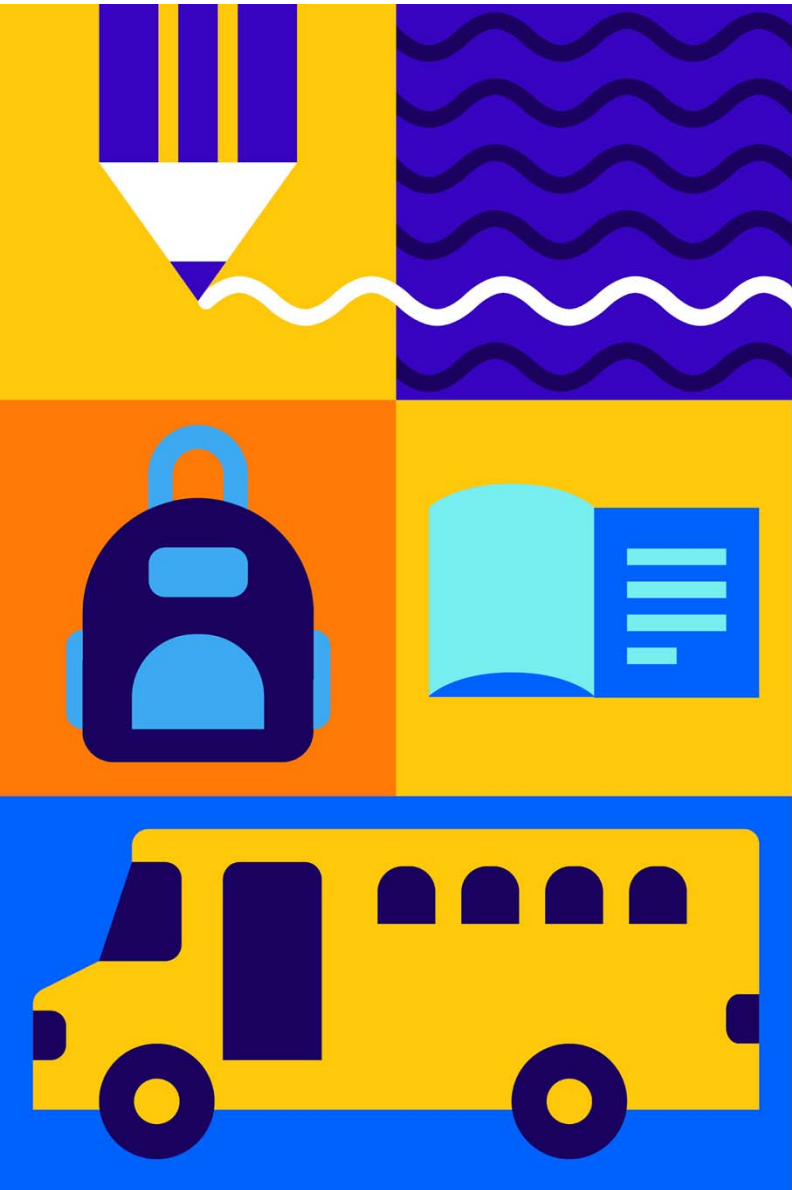
What is DonorsChoose?

**DONORS
CHOOSE**



Olathe Public Schools
Foundation



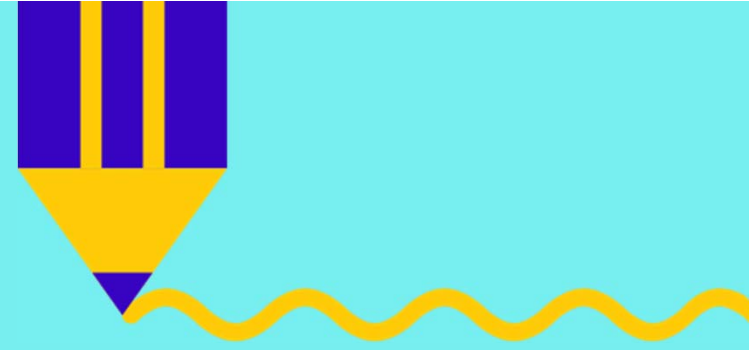


DonorsChoose is the nonprofit classroom funding site for teachers.

It's easy for teachers to get the **exact materials** they need.

There's a **strong community of donors** and partners who are eager to fund projects, even from teachers they don't know.

It's built **exclusively for educators** to help them succeed in the classroom.



1. Teachers ask.

“Help me give my students arts and crafts supplies to express their creativity.”

—Mrs. Leftwich, Santa Fe Trail Middle School

This is an Olathe DonorsChoose project.

Teachers request materials on the DonorsChoose.org site by creating a 'project'. Basically, a project is one page that outlines what they are requesting, why they need those items of experiences, and how those materials will impact students learning.

Healing Play: Play With Purpose and Power!
Help me give my students a dollhouse and dolls for the opportunity to play.

4 DONORS \$348 STILL NEEDED expires Dec 14 [Give to this classroom](#)

[Follow project for updates](#) [SHARE PROJECT](#)

My Project

Everything has a purpose!

Imagine creating an environment that is inviting for children; a safe place.

A place designed with them in mind. A place for comfort, healing, growth, challenge, peace. And, the best part...they have no idea what goodness is taking place! They are simply playing! They are being what they are intended to be...CHILDREN!

The doll house will allow my students to tell their stories through play...to act out social skills. To practice playing with others.

The precious newborn dolls and family figures will validate the importance of every person of color in my building!

Everything has a purpose!

Olathe, KS Grades PreK-2

More than half of students from low-income households

EQUITY FOCUS
At this school, more than 50% of students are Black, Latino, and/or Native American, and more than 50% come from low-income households. [Learn how your donation to this school supports a more equitable education.](#)

This project will reach **120** students.
4 donors have given to this project.

2. Donors choose.

“I gave to this project because I want to support the children of Olathe. I hope the doll house helps them tell their stories.”

—A donor from Kansas





Olathe Public Schools
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1:1 Match

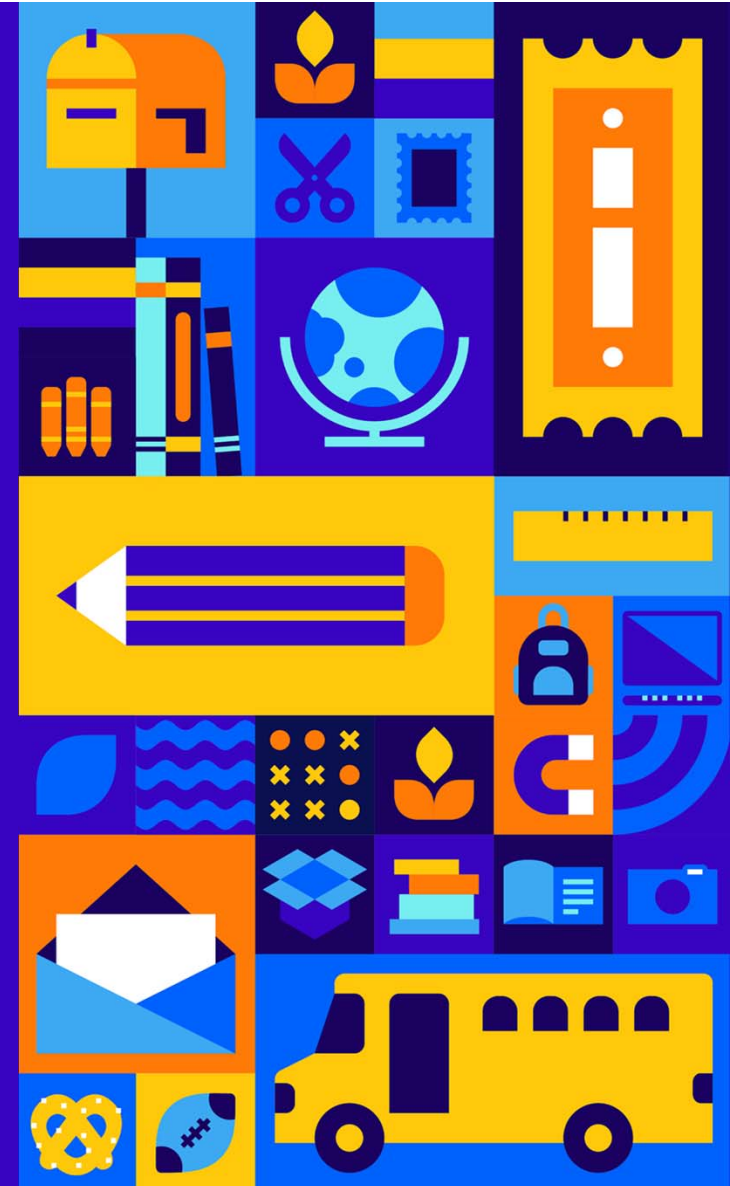
For all donations to qualifying projects

\$75,000 budgeted for
23-24 School Year

**DONORS
CHOOSE**



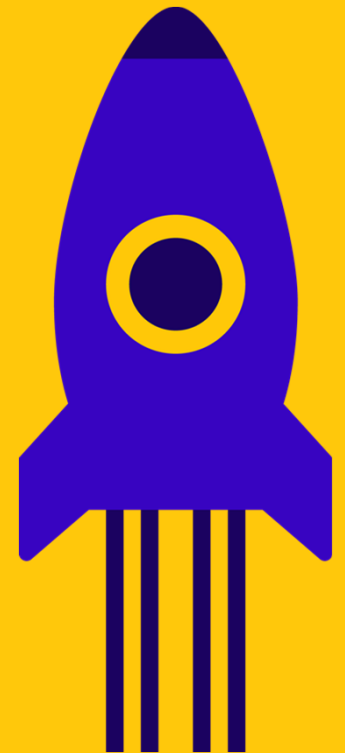
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3. Students learn.

“It was so amazing to see how engaged and involved each student was in the completion of this activity. Every student played a part in the planning, designing, and creation of their project.”

— **Ms. Mayfield**, Fairview Elementary



Creating an account:

How to Get Started



Olathe Public Schools
Foundation

Create an account.

This process should take about 5 minutes to complete.



Find a classroom to support

About us

Help

Sign in

Teacher Sign-up

Name & email Teaching details

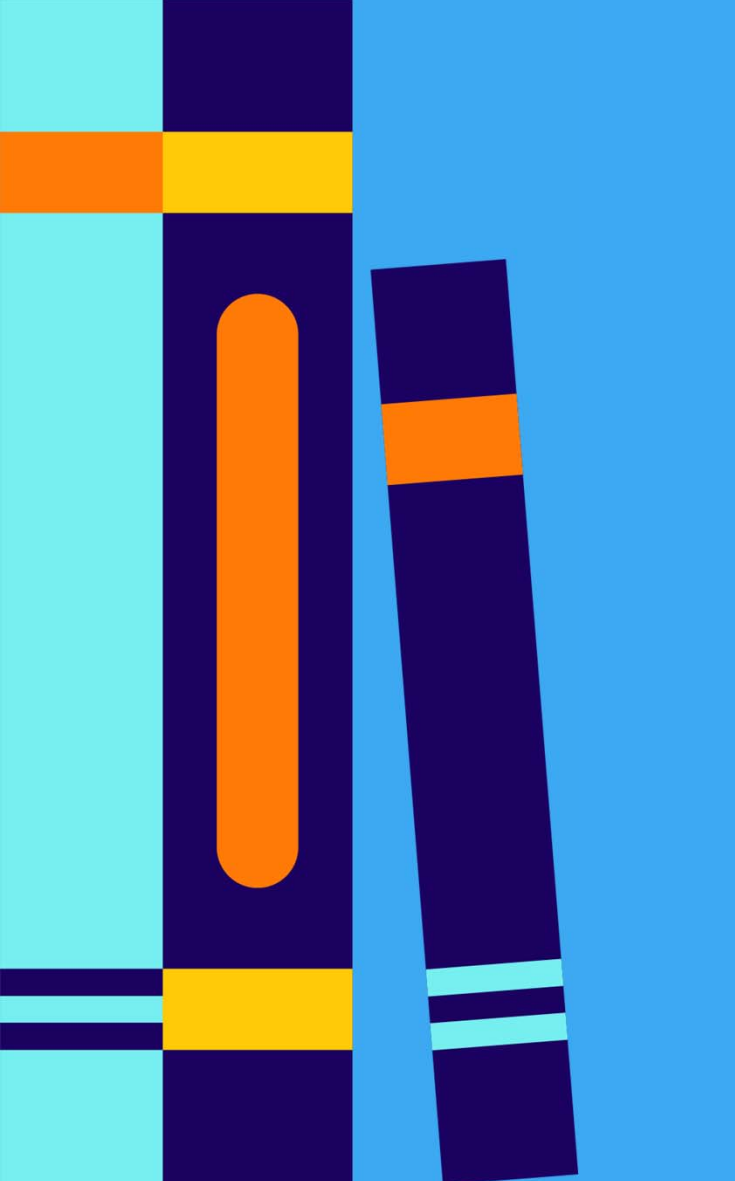
If you're a teacher or a full-time educator who works directly with students, DonorsChoose is for you!

[Full eligibility details](#)

Your personal email address [Why?](#)

Full name

Next: select my school



Brainstorm what your classroom needs

Finish these sentences

To teach an upcoming unit,
my students need_____.

To bring my dream learning activity
to life, my class needs _____.

To make my school a more vibrant and
engaging place for students,
my school needs _____.

Create a Classroom Project Request.

Once you log in to your account,
click 'create a project'.

From there, click 'Let's go!' to get
started.

HI WHO WHAT WHY REVIEW

Welcome, Ms. Dowson.
You're in! Now let's get started creating
your first DonorsChoose project.

Standard Project Professional Development

You'll begin by briefly describing your students, then
you'll shop online (our vendor network includes
Amazon and Lakeshore) or request experiences for
your students, and finish up by telling potential donors
about how the project will impact your classroom.
Most people spend about 20 minutes.

Let's go!

[Apply a campaign code](#)

NEED INSPIRATION?
[View some A+ projects](#) • [Find match offers](#)

Not sure what to request or how to frame it? **Browse some successful projects for inspiration.** Once you submit your project, our team of experienced teachers will look it over and make sure it's in great shape before it goes live on our site. When your project is fully funded, our team will take care of purchasing and paying for your project request. Materials will ship directly to your school.

Create a Classroom Project Request.

Take ~5 minutes to describe your students. Consider including things like **what your students love to learn**, what **makes them special**, and what **gets them excited** to come to school every day.

Don't worry about demographic data-that'll be displayed on the side of your project automatically.

HI WHO WHAT WHY REVIEW

About your students

Tell prospective donors who your students are and why they're special.

Age group

Which grade level(s) will benefit from this project?

[Select all](#)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-K	<input type="checkbox"/> Kindergarten	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2nd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3rd	<input type="checkbox"/> 4th	<input type="checkbox"/> 5th
<input type="checkbox"/> 6th	<input type="checkbox"/> 7th	<input type="checkbox"/> 8th	<input type="checkbox"/> 9th	<input type="checkbox"/> 10th	<input type="checkbox"/> 11th	<input type="checkbox"/> 12th

Pick the *primary* grade levels that will benefit from this project.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grades PreK-2	<input type="checkbox"/> Grades 3-5	<input type="checkbox"/> Grades 6-8	<input type="checkbox"/> Grades 9-12
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Number of students

How many students will benefit from this project this year?

250

Describe your students

Tell us what you love about your students. What makes them special? Specific details and anecdotes about your students are helpful.

★ [See some good examples](#) ★

Go Shopping for your classroom.

Shop for what you need through our **vendor portal**.

DonorsChoose has friendly faces like Amazon, Best Buy Education, Lakeshore Learning, School Specialty and Staples.

HI WHO **WHAT** WHY REVIEW


Go shopping


What do you need for your classroom?


Supplies Class Trip Visitor(s)


This is just like online shopping! Click a link to one of the sites below to shop through our vendor directory. Be sure to double check sizes, accessories, and warranties when shopping.

Where to find commonly requested items

 **AKJ Education** FREE SHIPPING
Classroom collections, books, leveled reading, hands-on STEM, digital, audio, special needs resources, Spanish

 **Amazon Business**
Education & teacher supplies, books, DVDs, CDs, furniture, eReaders, toys, computers, office supplies

 **Best Buy Education** FREE SHIPPING
Chromebooks & licenses, tablets, projectors, a/v equipment, 3D printing, appliances, Google Expeditions

 **Blick Art Materials**
Art supplies including paints, ceramics, drafting & architecture, art books & media, printmaking, and more



When writing a project, keep the total as low as possible. You can do this by breaking it into chunks as much as possible. **I recommend books or general supplies that total less than \$300 for a first project.**



Mrs. Walls, Calloway County High School

Write your project statement.

Tell donors a bit about your students and project.

This is your chance to give supporters a glimpse into your classroom, and why you need the materials you are requesting.

HI WHO WHAT **WHY** REVIEW

Project details

Make your project stand out from the crowd.

Project title

Make it exciting and Capitalize It Like a Book Title.

★ [See some good examples](#) ★

2 words minimum

About your project

How will these materials make a difference in your students' learning? Help readers picture the lessons you'll teach and your students' learning outcomes.

★ [See some good examples](#) ★

100 words minimum

Together, we rally supporters.

Donations to your projects will be matched up to \$1,000 this school year!

You share your project in your network (like on social media, via email, and in person) while DonorsChoose will let their community of supporters know about your new project.

9 DONORS

\$128 STILL NEEDED

\$472 GOAL

expires Feb 21 \$

OCT 28



Rico Vasquez from Texas gave

The DonorsChoose.org New Teacher Fund matched this donation

Like you, we are thrilled to help kickstart this project. Let's keep the momentum going!



Mr. Gomez responded

Thank you for your generous donation!

OCT 24



David Lee Gonzalez from Texas gave

I chose to give because our training staff has given us so much and I couldn't thank them enough for always taking care of my brothers and I. So I'm giving back to them. They deserve it

The DonorsChoose.org New Teacher Fund matched this donation

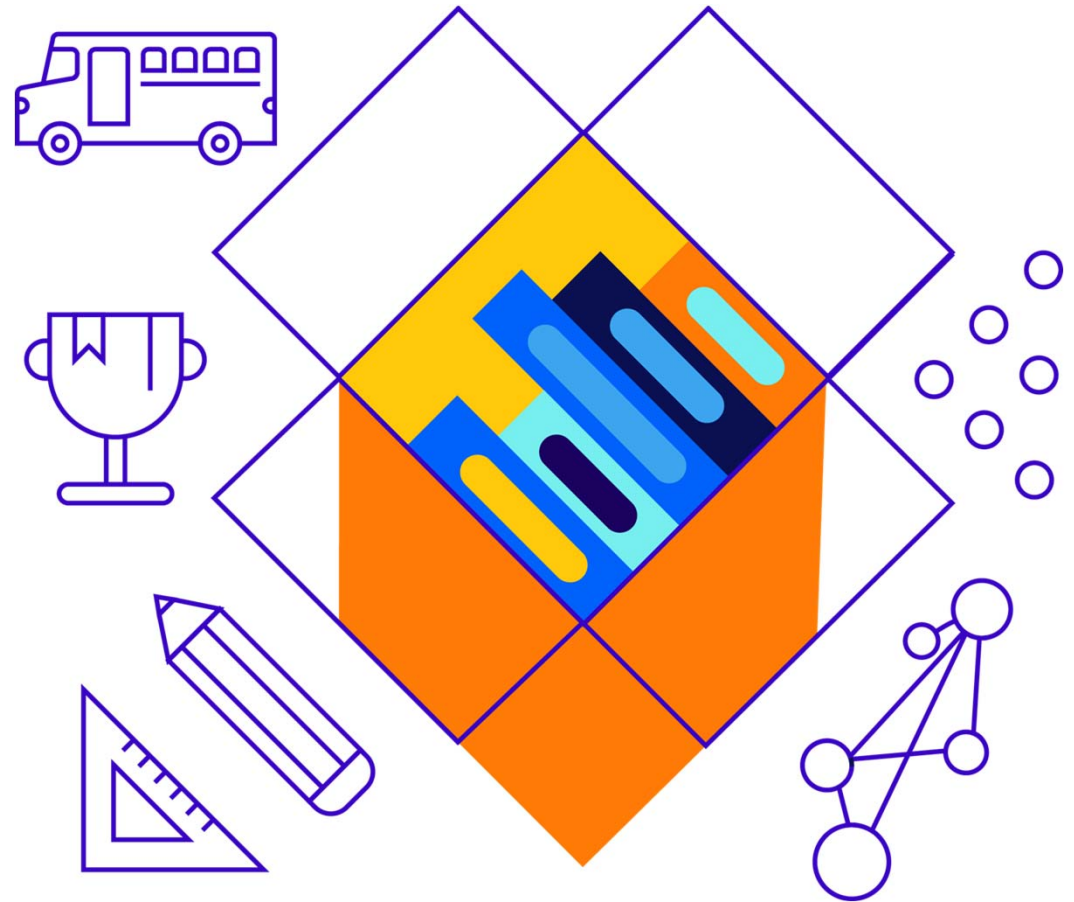
Like you, we are thrilled to help kickstart this project. Let's keep the momentum going!



You get your materials.

Once your project is fully funded, DonorsChoose will purchase the materials you requested and ship them straight to your school, or to the location of your choice. Easy peasy.

Most projects are eligible to be shipped directly to your home, school office, or the home of a student.



Funding your project:

Tips for Success

Best practices to
get your project
funded:
Before Posting



Low cost projects have the highest chances of success

- Keep your project **under \$600** for the highest likelihood for getting funded
- Break large ideas into a few smaller projects

Write your statement with supporters in mind

- Keep student outcomes at the forefront while you describe your classroom needs

Best practices to
get your project
funded:
Long-Term



Qualifying Projects for the OPSF 1:1 match

- **Total Project GOAL:** \$1,000 or less
- Project author must be a certified educator teaching at a school within the USD 233 school district
- Limit of \$1,000 in matching funds available per educator per school year while funds last
- Project must have approval of building administrator
- Project may not include information technology hardware or software
- Project may not include professional development expenses
- Project must follow DonorsChoose guidelines
- **Tip:** Visit the [DonorsChoose help page](#)



Best practices to
get your project
funded:
Long-Term



Common Mistakes

- Total Project **GOAL** is more than \$1,000. This includes taxes, shipping, fees, and the suggested donation to support DonorsChoose.
- Total Project Goal is too high, so donors feel like they can't make a difference.
- Project includes technology or professional development items, which are not eligible for the match. This includes Teachers Pay Teachers gift cards, headphones, and SD cards as well as tablets, 3D printers and computers. [Learn more about DonorsChoose categories.](#)
- Being too wordy. Keep it simple.

Questions?

E-mail us:
foundation@olatheschools.org

**DONORS
CHOOSE**



Olathe Public Schools
Foundation

