



Olathe Public Schools
Foundation
meeting the need

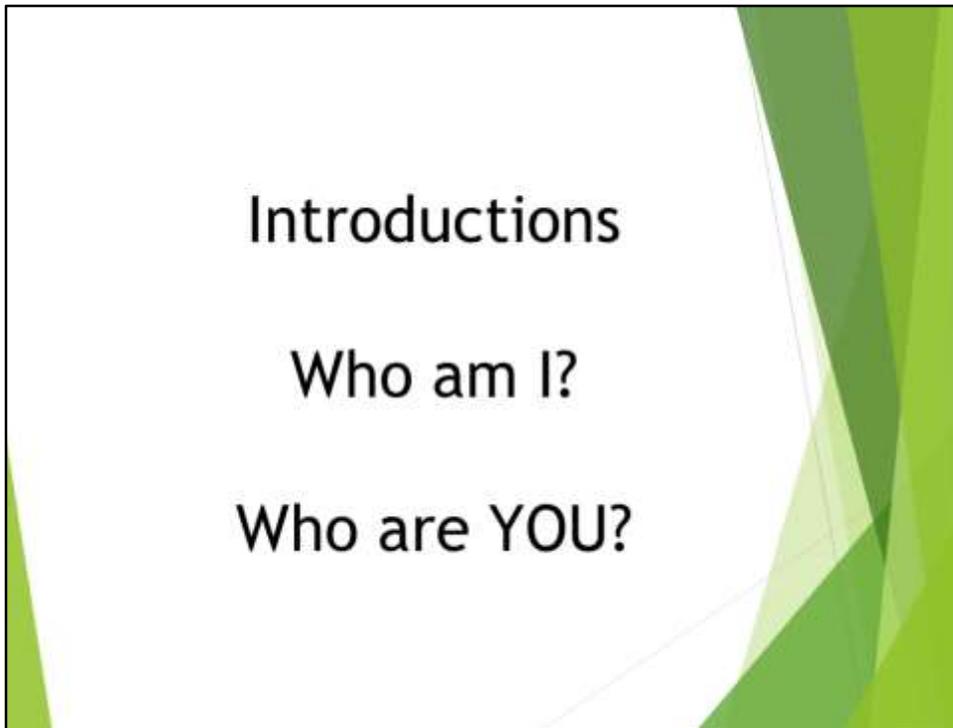
Dreaming Big:

Grant Funds to Help You
Help Your Students

We have door prizes.

(Think Pampered Chef!)

- ▶ Everyone gets a ticket for choosing this session.
- ▶ Tickets for asking questions.
- ▶ Tickets for proving you are paying attention.
- ▶ Tickets for sitting on the front row.
- ▶ Tickets for whatever else we cook up as we go along.



How many are visual art teachers?

Early Childhood? K-5 Classroom? K-5 Specials? Middle School? High School?
Administrators?

How many of you have written a grant before to the OPSF?

Have any of you written grants to other sources? Were you successful?

Agenda for today:

- ▶ OPSF Overview
- ▶ Review the 3 main types of grants offered by the OPSF
- ▶ Tips on how to write a grant that has a better opportunity to be funded.
- ▶ Other places to look for resources

OPSF Overview

- ▶ We have a \$1.4 million dollar budget.
- ▶ We care about
 - ▶ Innovation
 - ▶ Excellence
 - ▶ Student need
 - ▶ Connecting the community with the schools



Get out your iPads!

Make sure to note about Wimmer Student Care Fund and the ALL Fund



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3 Options for Grants

- ▶ **OPSF Grant Program** (\$1,000-\$5,000 per grant)
 - ▶ \$100,000 available for general grants, \$6,000 available specifically for visual arts grants
 - ▶ 3 cycles (September, November, February)
 - ▶ Requires application
- ▶ **Fund-A-Need** (\$250-\$1,500 per grant)
 - ▶ Crowd-funding initiative
 - ▶ Requires social media interaction for true success
- ▶ **Women's Giving Circle**
 - ▶ \$10,000 available (deadline September)
 - ▶ Need-based/innovation in the fall
 - ▶ Non-Need-based in the spring



Classroom Grants



Doesn't everyone look happy? You too could be this happy!

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Grant Programs

The Olathe Public Schools Foundation awards grants up to \$2,500 for innovative classroom projects, \$2,000 for visual arts programs, \$1,000 for need-based grants, and up to \$5,000 for projects impacting multiple classrooms, grades, or schools. We also offer a special grant cycle specifically for Enhanced Learning Grants. Last year, the Foundation awarded more

Teachers & Staff

- E2 Awards
- CEEA
- Staff Campaign
- Grants
- Ways to Give

www.olathepublicschoolsfoundation.org



▶ The Classroom Grants have been broken down into **5** areas:

- ▶ Hidden Glen Visual Arts Grants (up to \$2,000)
- ▶ Innovative Classroom Grants (up to \$2,500)
- ▶ Need-Based Grants (up to \$1,000)
- ▶ Building/Grade-level/District Wide (up to \$5,000 - requires principal/administrator involvement)
- ▶ Extended Learning Grants - Up to \$5,000, can include stipends

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The Extended Learning Grant is of course still part of our program. That requires an additional addendum because of the stipends associated with the grant. That grant process remains unchanged.

Classroom Grants

- ▶ September 14, 2017- First Cycle
- ▶ November 16, 2017- Second Cycle
- ▶ February 22, 2018- Third Cycle

We had **\$100,000** budgeted for 2017-18.
Each cycle is not specifically budgeted.



Here are the 3 grant deadlines. We've got \$100,000 budgeted for this year.

It doesn't mean we've got \$33,333.33 per each cycle, could give out \$50k during first cycle. Get grants in during first two deadlines!

Before you get started

- Read the entire grant application.
- Think about who needs to sign off on your project and run your idea by them first.
- Do you need a technology addendum? If so, finish your grant early and send it to Josh Anderson, Executive Director of Technology for approval.

Do not staple
Unauthorized copies only



Please refer to page 2 while completing this application

Grant Applicant Name(s) _____ Office Phone _____

Grant Title _____

Subject _____ Olathe Student _____ # of students impacted _____

Please indicate which grant you are applying for:
 Hidden Glen Grant - Arts Grant - awarded to 1 class per teacher - limited to \$2,000
 Innovation grant - awarded to teachers and provided up to \$2,000
 Hidden Glen grant - awarded to teachers and provided up to \$2,000
 Building or enhancing grant - awarded to educators up to \$2,000

Will you accept partial funding for your grant request? Yes No

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

(Please bring your grant application to six pages in total. Thank you!)

Your grant application should consist of the following:

1. **NAME** - a completed copy of this form with attachments.
 - a. Grant description
 - b. Grant Summary - 25 words or less. How many all states to be teacher, condition, we deal with one other in the past, teacher, teacher, teacher
 - c. Description of student need
 - d. Goals
 - e. Evaluation Scheme
 - f. Student Success - how success is measured
2. **MAIL** - attach funding form page 2 of this application with supporting documentation.

*Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

I understand the purpose and requirements of page 1, reading a calendar form, but am the applicant of the grant.

*Principal's Signature _____ Date _____

Return this form via inter-school mail to "GLSC - Olathe Public Schools Foundation"
Application must arrive before 8:00 p.m. on the cycle deadline date!
Phone 913/261-2222 Fax 913/261-2114 www.olatheschools.org/foundation



Here's our grant application - It's not so scary!

For the Hidden Glen Grant - the Fine Arts Coordinator serves as a reviewer for all art applications, resource duplication, innovation, and ties to the curriculum – so you've got someone in your corner that knows what they are talking about as those tend to be pretty specified.

Think of a great name

Which grant sounds more interesting to you?

Blast off! Engineering for Kids or
STEM Tools for the Classroom

Touring the World through Art or
Building the Art Classroom Library



Tips for a successful grant narrative

- ▶ **Know your audience:** For the most part, community representatives *who are not educators* are deciding whether or not you get funding.
- ▶ **Tell a story:** Don't get too caught up in educational language. Just tell the story. Tell us why you need this grant to be funded so that you can change a life.





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Judging GRANTS

- ▶ Judges for the grants have a 40 point scale that they will be grading your grant and have 6 questions to answer about your grant. Each questions carries a different weighted amount
- ▶ Let's take an inside look at how judges are grading grants!

Let's go over these questions

Innovative Grant Evaluation Rubric: 40 Points Possible

1. Grant and needed materials are clearly described. Materials and budget are appropriate. Overall grant goals are clearly described. (5 pts.)
2. Program can be repeated without additional funds. (5 pts.)
3. What new strategy/new approach/new method makes this grant truly innovative? (10 pts.)
4. Grant clearly addresses potential academic impact on individual students. (5 pts.)
5. Grant demonstrates overall academic impact on the targeted population, including number of students/grade levels impacted and the academic areas impacted. (10 pts.)
6. Application provided info that demonstrates how student/program impact will be measured. (5 pts.)

Need-based Grant Evaluation Rubric: 40 Points Possible

1. Grant and needed materials are clearly described. Materials and budget are appropriate. Overall grant goals are clearly described. (5 pts.)
2. Program can be repeated without additional funds. (5 pts)
3. Rate overall need described in this grant. Was this previously funded from other sources? Have other funding options been exhausted? (10 pts.)
4. Grant clearly addresses potential academic impact on individual students. (5 pts.)
5. Grant demonstrates overall academic impact on the targeted population, including number of students/grade levels impacted and the academic areas impacted. (10 pts.)
6. Application provided info that demonstrates how student/program impact will be measured. (5 pts.)

GRANTS

- ▶ Post Grant Assessment
- ▶ PICTURES



The image contains two photographs. The left photograph shows a young girl in a classroom setting, standing next to a red board with a window graphic. The right photograph shows a woman in a red shirt applying makeup to a man's face.



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Upon being awarded a grant, two very important pieces to the grant process are the Post Grant Assessment and documenting the grant

The Post Grant Assessment plays an important part in determining whether or not the committee funds grants similar to yours in the future for other teachers. It also helps determine re-awarding teachers for the same grant in future cycles (field trips, etc.).

The pictures are important because they help us market grant opportunities to donors. We have bi-weekly newsletters that go out to donors highlighting what we've done with grant money. Roughly 80% of our grants have been highlighted.

**Questions about
Classroom Grants?**

**Take five minutes to talk with
your group about what types of
classroom needs could be met
with this type of grant.**

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What questions do you have about our grant process?

Let's quick walk through a grant writing process...

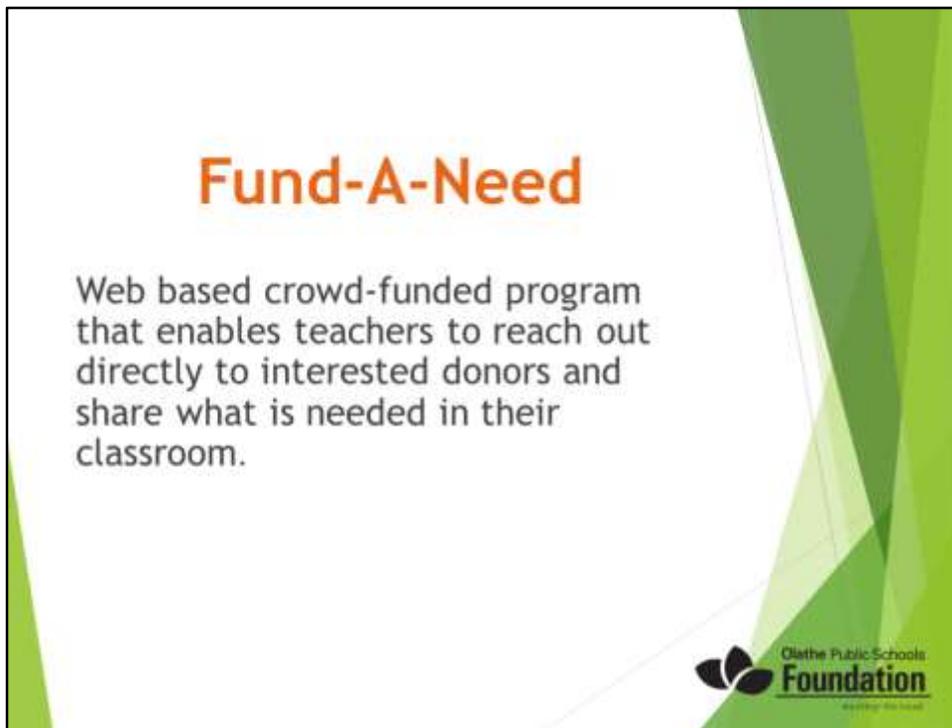


OPSF introduced a new initiative in October, 2015!

Anyone familiar with GoFundMe or DonorsChoose?

This program is very similar to both of those initiatives but Fund-A-Need is exclusively for teachers in the Olathe School District.

100% of donations received go towards funding your program.



Fund-A-Need

Web based crowd-funded program that enables teachers to reach out directly to interested donors and share what is needed in their classroom.



So what is Fund-A-Need exactly?

Classroom grant requests can be anywhere from \$250 - \$1,500.

Now who in this room could use \$250 - \$1,500 for their classroom next year?

While you're unable to request staff stipends or anything that would require district technology approval, this program is designed for teachers to ask for just about anything else.

We've had requests for everything from magazine subscriptions to drones to mascot costumes and snake food. No kidding. The first Fund-A-Need that was fully funded was set up by a Student Naturalist Instructor at ONW who needed \$600.00 to help pay for food for the classroom's pet snakes.

The money wasn't in the budget last year so he set up a Fund-A-Need, marketed to the public and his friends and family and got them to supply the cost of food.

- ▶ Over 1,000 donors
- ▶ Over \$110,000 in gifts
- ▶ Over 125 grants funded
- ▶ Over 200 teachers have applied for a total of approximately \$180,000 in grants



Since launching in October, 2015 at our Autumn Breakfast, the Foundation has seen:

Average gift size of \$65

Over the last 7 months...

Last month, in celebration of our 20th year of meeting the need in the district, the Foundation offered a \$20,000 match to all Fund-A-Need donations. More specifically, the Foundation offered a 1:1 match for every donation received.

This resulted in over \$13,000 in donations with an average gift of about \$80.00.

We still have nearly \$5,000 in matching funds available so if you have a classroom need in mind for next year, now would be a good time to start proactively fundraising since a match is a wonderful incentive to donors to make a gift.

These stats tell us the NEED for this program is there. And we hear you!

- Teachers can use Fund-A-Need as a vehicle to communicate their classroom needs
- Share classroom needs through social media
- Market needs to friends and outside world
- In real time, you can track progress of your need



Quick overview

Teachers can go on to our website, enter their needs (\$250-\$1,500). While the Foundation markets the Fund-A-Need program to our constituents, teachers can market their classroom needs through social media and email.

This tool is designed for you to tell your story.

We are aware that sometimes if small things aren't in the budget, you'll go and pay for these items out of your own pocket. This tool creates a window into your classroom to allow donors to see your needs and offers assistance so you have an alternative to spending your own money.

Fund-A-Need enables us to bring our donors directly into your classroom and keep YOUR money in YOUR pocket.

The average amount of time spent on an application was 13 minutes. But, this program may not be for everyone. You must actively advocate for yourself and your program. Some people aren't comfortable doing that.

- ▶ Enter your information (school, catchy grant title, grade level)
- ▶ Enter a short description about your students
- ▶ Enter a short description about your project
- ▶ Simply explain what your students need (an opportunity, a chance to succeed, can be as simple as pencils or pens)
- ▶ Consider writing these segments in Word, then pasting onto the website. No ability to save and go back to your application on this site.



My Project Description

My Students: Please help the donors get to know your students by sharing information such as demographics, interests, challenges, life events, social/cultural/language. Use this opportunity to set up why your students will need the project you describe in the next box. See Success Stories for examples. (500 character limit, including spaces) Advice: Write your descriptions in Word and copy/paste them onto this page. *

My Project: Please tell the story behind your project. Help the donors envision what you're trying to accomplish. (500 character limit, including spaces) Advice: Write your descriptions in Word and copy/paste them onto this page. *

My Students Need: Help simply state what your students need in one sentence. (175 character limit, including spaces) Advice: Write your descriptions in Word and copy/paste them onto this page. *

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The grant applications process has been purposefully made easy for both the writer and the reader.

You will first enter your contact information, school and grade level. This information is important because donors can go online and search for grants by school, grade level or subject area.

Catchy titles: “Rulers for Kids” vs. “Measure Our Success”

You have a 350 character limit to provide a description of your students and 500 characters to describe your project/program. Be brief. Be specific.

And remember your audience. Don’t assume your friends and family know teaching acronyms and/or what stability balls can do for students. Explain how these items or materials will enhance learning, if applicable.

And finally, simply explain the need. You have 175 characters, so basically a Tweet, to communicate this need. Use this area to state your case for support. This is where you might get specific about a specific student who could really benefit from the requested materials. What story can you tell to make the donor more inclined to give?

Can be as basic as “my students need pencils and pencils to complete their work in my classroom”, or more elaborate if needed.

I want to really focus on this last point for a minute. This online application cannot be saved once started. We suggest reviewing the application, writing your answers in Word and then cutting and pasting your information when you are ready to submit. Word also provides spellcheck, which is really important. While the Foundation reviews each grant and checks for spelling and punctuation, we can't guarantee that it will go live error free unless it comes to us that way.

Any questions so far?

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- ▶ Your Fund-A-Need submission requires a photo
- ▶ Opportunity to showcase your requested materials or classroom needs
- ▶ Make sure the photo is engaging and descriptive

Photo

Photo *

Choose one interesting photo that supports your grant request. Photos of students will engage the donor.

Files must be less than 500 KB.
Allowed file formats: jpg, png, gif, and jpeg

If you are requesting a specific item, a picture of this item would be a great choice so donors can see what they're helping to purchase.

We recently had an elementary school music teacher submit a Fund-A-Need for a \$350 rug for her students to sit on during class. There were no chairs or risers in this classroom, which happened to be in one of our Title I schools, and this rug would be used so kids didn't have to sit on the floor. The teacher posted a picture of the rug she hoped to purchase and used social media and email to get her friends and family involved and with the match and the Fund-A-Need was funded within the week.



We've all heard the saying, "A picture says 1,000 words". This statement is very true when referring to your Fund-A-Need grant.

Because you have minimal space and text to convince donors to give, the picture you use needs to be very visually impactful.

These are examples of some wonderful pictures we've received along with Fund-A-Need submissions. They are engaging and enhance the grant request story. All of these programs were completely funded.

Rug picture

This picture on the lower left side, for example, was used to promote a grant for supplies in a Textile Design Class at ONW. Students would use the materials to sew dresses and those dresses were then sent to an organization called "Dresses for Africa" which helps clothe young girls in Africa who have no resources for clothing.



Donors LOVE pictures of kids. If you're not inclined to use an images from your classroom or of your kids, there are PLENTY of images available online that can be used.

Some images found online are better than others. Here are a few that miss the opportunity to tell the grant story.

Instead of this stack of books to request replacement books, show donors how haggard your old books. Maybe take it a step further and have your kids holding the old books that need replacements.

Instead of this box of veggies, show a picture of the indoor gardening boxes you hope to purchase with grant money. Instead of stick kids, use pictures of real kids. Instead of a read me bubble, show pictures of kids reading.

- ▶ Fund-A-Need submission requires you to enter costs of the materials/items you are requesting
- ▶ You can add as many items as needed - grouped by like items.
- ▶ You may not purchase items from Amazon.com or Walmart.
- ▶ Make sure to include shipping and handling.

Budget Info

In the first box, list the item you are requesting. List the associated cost in the following box. If you are requesting multiple items, please list them separately or group them by like items. Make sure to include any shipping costs. Click on **Add Another Item** after each individual piece.

Please review your budget info and make sure that the individual items equal the amount requested above.

Budget Info *

Materials/Items *

Cost *

\$

If you're asking donors for multiple items, it's best that you break out those costs for donors.

We recently funded a "Movement Motivated Classroom" grant for nearly \$1,400 for a teacher to purchase stability balls, exercise peddlers, wobble seats, etc. to give students an energy outlet so they can keep focused on learning. This Fund-A-Need requested 31 total items that were grouped together into eight budget line items.

Donors saw exactly what their money was going to help purchased and it was funded within 10 days.

Most teachers search costs on the Internet. Don't spend a lot of time trying to find the cheapest option. And as Cindy mentioned earlier, don't shop on Amazon as we can't get around the sales tax issue so we can't purchase these.

Don't forget to include shipping costs! In several Fund-A-Need programs, shipping has been up to \$50. The district will not cover this cost for you so if you under-ask, you may not be fully funded. We don't want you to have to come out-of-pocket so be sure to do your research on budget.

Feel free to break out the shipping cost as a separate budget item or include it within the cost of the item you're wanting to purchase.

Any questions about Fund-A-Need budgets?



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- You receive an email once your administrator approves the grant, once the OPSF approves the grant, and every time you receive a donation
- At any point, you can see how much money your grant has raised
- Once your grant is fully funded, you'll be notified via e-mail.
- You and your bookkeeper will work together to get the items in your grant purchased in a timely manner
- There is a deadline, so get those funds spent!

As soon as you hit “Submit Grant” your grant will be sent to your schools administrator for review.

Administrator approval is required before your grant can go live.

With the email you provided, you are in THE KNOW every step of the way

If you don't get an email that your grant has been approved by your administrator, contact them directly. Have them check the “clutter” file in Outlook.

Once the grant is funded it will be moved to the “Success Stories” portion of our website.

I encourage you to visit the Success Stories portion of the site to see what grants have been funded and the language they used to properly communicate their classroom need.

FUND-A-NEED TIPS

- › Use social media! There is a **STRONG** correlation of success when your grant goes viral and receives attention.
- › Pick a realistic deadline date - don't choose next week. Give yourself 3-6 months to be successful. Plan ahead.
- › This is 100% donor funded. Make your grant easy to understand. Stay away from jargon and acronyms.
- › Choose a thoughtful title.
- › Pick an engaging picture for your Fund-A-Need. Boring pictures don't catch the donor's eye.



Don't wait! Once your grant goes live, start informing your friends and family about the opportunity to get involved and help! Let them know what your goal is, when you hope to reach it and how you hope to reach it. Teachers that passionately engage their friends and family through social media and email are far more successful than those that do not.

While we do our due diligence to inform Foundation supporters about the Fund-A-Need program and some faithful Foundation donors do come to the site to search Fund-A-Need grants to support, MOST donors are DRIVEN to the site. Don't expect your grant to get funded by donors who stop by the site. We often have over 40 grants available for funding at all times...that's a lot of competition.

Some grants will be funded in two days. Others can take up to a year. Plan to post on social media more than once. Two weeks after your initial post, post an update and ask for continued support. Tell them how much you've raised so far. If you choose to make a donation to get things started, TELL your friends and family you've done so and ask them to join you in supporting your grant. Let them know their donation is tax deductible.

Let them know when you've been successful so donors can share in that success. A donor who feels appropriately thanked is much more likely to make additional donations in the future. Should you have additional classroom needs in the future, you'll likely be going back to the same people so it's important they feel properly thanked.

Your donors will receive thank you letters from our office.

Questions?

Fund-a-Need Questions?

Take a few minutes to log-on to the Fund-a-Need site and find a grant that you would fund if you had \$25.



Amazing things happen when women come together for an important purpose.

OPSF Women's Giving Circle

100 Women donate \$100
twice a year to grant out
\$10,000 grants.



Women's Giving Circle

Olathe teachers should identify a challenge/problem impacting student achievement, and submit a grant proposal stating how they would address that challenge/problem utilizing resources funded with the grant.

- ▶ Collaboration between buildings, grades, classrooms
- ▶ Innovative
- ▶ Sustainable
- ▶ Educational Outcomes





Fall, 2017 Cycle
Focus was on Student Need
\$10,000

Spring, 2018 Cycle
Focus is on Innovation
\$10,000

Where else can I find \$\$\$ for my classroom?

- Parent Teacher Organization
- Your School's Business Partners
- Your School's Community Partners
- Your School's Faith-based Partners
- Walmart Stores
- Private Foundations



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