

BACK-TO-SCHOOL STUDENT & SCHOOL SUPPORT

2020-2021



**Children
First Fund**

The Chicago Public Schools Foundation

642 SCHOOLS • 355,156 STUDENTS • 20,923 TEACHERS

The Children First Fund (CFF) has designed a range of impactful opportunities for partners to support School Year 2020-2021 in the areas of **technology, supplies and resources** for high-quality remote and/or in-school instruction, **school partnerships, social emotional needs, literacy and diverse books**, and more.

Organizations and individuals interested in discussing any of the following Back-to-School initiatives may contact:

Rachel Orłowski, Director of Institutional Giving
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Johanna Wheaton, Director of Major Gifts
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If you would like to support Back-to-School priorities, you may give online, via check or wire transfer.

Children First Fund
200 W Madison St., 2nd Floor
Chicago, IL 60606



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When the COVID-19 pandemic forced schools to move to remote learning in March 2020, our community came together to support the critical needs of students and families through the CFF Compassion Fund.

Now, as we move ahead in this difficult moment, we look to support our school communities in preparing students for the new school year in the fall.

The start of the school year is a crucial time for students to establish positive habits and build momentum for a successful year. This school year presents unique challenges and the support of the Chicago community will be more important than ever. We invite you to join us in support of School Year 2020-2021 to help promote a **safe, supportive, and equitable** learning environment.



CPS BACK-TO-SCHOOL 2020-2021 PRINCIPLES:

- Having a flexible approach to meet the needs of staff and students
- Following public health guidance to prioritize safety and social distancing
- Prioritizing the social emotional well-being of students
- Honoring CPS' commitment to equity by supporting those with the greatest need, including English Learners and Diverse Learners
- Ensuring families feel informed and know what to expect



Compassion Fund:
BACK-TO-SCHOOL



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Compassion Fund: Back-to-School

Funding for Back-to-School will provide schools and students with essential items to support a new learning environment, equipping students to learn in school and/or remote.

Donations to this fund will be equitably distributed to school communities based on need. Prioritization will take into account schools with a high percentage of students eligible for free lunch, communities with the highest hardship based on the UIC hardship index, as well as other schools with extenuating circumstances. With your support, we will have a direct impact on the talented and deserving students across Chicago.



Investment

Gifts of all levels can help meet the evolving needs of our students and schools. Your investment will be of great impact for CPS students, helping them start the school year on the right foot.

"Equity recognizes that every student deserves a quality educational experience, no matter their backgrounds, while also providing the conditions, goals, and resources for success."
-Dr. Maurice R. Swinney, Chief Equity Officer

Compassion Fund: Back-to-School

Learning Resources and Equipment:

To meet social distancing, remote learning, and/or pod-model protocols.

- Classroom A/V for engagement with remote students (microphones, webcams, swivls, speakers, projectors)
- Individual whiteboards
- Art kits/supplies
- Multicultural books, digital books
- Pre-K literacy kits (letter tiles, tools for phonics, etc.)
- Playground/PE equipment
- Teacher professional development for continued learning practices
- External programming and partnerships for SEL, Tutors/Mentors, etc.

Technology:

To support a flexible learning environment, in school and/or remote.

- Chromebooks
- Laptops
- Tablets
- Protective cases
- Headphones
- Chargers/charging docks
- Computer mice/mousepads
- USB cords
- Projectors, smart boards
- Digital books and programming
- Technology package (Chromebook, case, mouse, headphones, USB and charger)

Compassion Fund: Back-to-School

School Supplies:

Whether lessons are remote or in-person, students still need basic school supplies to complete assignments and be successful.

- Watercolor paints
- Washable markers
- Sketch pads
- 2-pocket folders
- Spiral notebooks
- Large pencils & sharpeners
- Round tip scissors
- Crayons
- Colored pencils
- Notebooks
- Dictionaries
- Graphing calculators
- Geometry kits (compass, triangle, ruler, protractor)
- Hand sanitizer (personal sized)
- Backpacks



If you would like to organize an **employee fundraiser** or donate **in-kind**, please fill out **this form**.

We will reach out to match you with a school, provide a detailed list of needs and specifications, and work with you to coordinate delivery or shipment of the items. We request that in-kind donations are made in increments of 30 (to support at least one classroom).



SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

This is a customizable opportunity for partners interested to build a long term one-to-one partnership with a CPS school. CFF will match you with a school that aligns with your goals and help you build a partnership plan that uplifts both the school and your organization.

Investment

\$25,000+ per year for two years. Investment opportunities vary by school, but your support will help fund identified needs such as after school programming, school bands and choirs, furniture, technology, libraries, calm corners, school supplies, washers and dryers, playgrounds, STEM tools, and sports team uniforms.



"Partners quite literally change the lives of the students I teach in ways big and small, and we're forever grateful."

- Teacher, Spry Community School



EQUITY AND ACCESS

While learning will look different this year, our efforts to ensure equity and access for our students must continue. Philanthropic support will help to advance this work and educational equity across CPS.



"At the heart of our vision is a renewed focus on equity--not as a stand-alone initiative, but as our driving value through which we make every decision."

*- Janice K. Jackson, EdD
CEO, Chicago Public Schools*

We welcome the opportunity to connect directly with interested partners to provide additional detail on the following initiatives, as well as other ways to support the CPS Five-Year Vision.

Social Emotional Learning

We recognize that students will be carrying many feelings in their invisible backpack - including stress, fear, anxiety, anger, and grief - and will need support returning to a learning environment, whether in person or remote. **CPS is committed to addressing the social emotional needs of students, many of whom have been facing COVID-19-related trauma during recent months** due to death, parents serving as essential workers, moves or transitions, and more.

CPS will offer additional mental health interventions and supports, grief programming, expand small group trauma interventions, and classroom-based activities for managing stress and anxiety. Social Emotional Learning investments focus on training teachers for classroom strategies for coping and trauma-informed practices and SEL partner programming for students.

Investment

\$150,000 Trauma-Informed Teacher Specialist Pilot

\$150,000 Classroom Strategies for Stress & Coping

\$150,000-\$300,000 Partner Programming & Calm Classrooms/Sensory Spaces



Multicultural Libraries

CPS is working to promote abundant reading of diverse and engaging texts, with every student experiencing a rigorous literacy education with books that are relevant to their life, background, and identity. Funding supports books and furniture for classroom libraries, book packages to build home libraries, and teacher training.

Investment

\$10,000 provides culturally relevant books and supports for classrooms/ students at one elementary school.

\$50,000 provides culturally relevant books and supports for classrooms/ students at 5 elementary schools.

\$100,000 provides culturally relevant books and supports for classrooms/ students at 10 elementary schools.



Literacy Support Kits

Interactive materials are critical for Pre-K and primary grade students to develop their reading skills. Literacy Support Kits will include items such as phonics tools, letter tiles, white boards, and art supplies for creative storytelling. These kits can help our youngest learners in school and/or remote.

Investment

\$20,000 provides literacy support kits for 600+ students

\$75,000 provides literacy support kits for 2,500 students

\$125,000 provides literacy support kits for 4,000+ students



The Chicago Roadmap

Chicago Public Schools and City Colleges of Chicago (CCC) are here to provide the resources students need to get to and through college, paving the way for future economic success.

With the Chicago Roadmap, CPS and CCC will offer programs, career exploration, courses, student advising, early college credit opportunities, post secondary credentials and more. The end goal is a clear and equitable education pathway for all of our students from the moment students step into the Pre-K classroom to the day they cross the college graduation stage.

Investment

This past spring, CFF and CCC Foundation launched a \$37.5M philanthropic campaign to fulfill the goals outlined in the Roadmap. Philanthropic support will accelerate and scale the solutions called for in the Roadmap's design, to better support the path to college and career for Chicago students.





LET'S WORK TOGETHER

Have any idea for a Back-to-School partnership that you don't see here? Let us know! We'll work closely with you to create a unique activation that will best leverage your resources to support our schools.

ACKNOWLEDGING YOUR SUPPORT

We look forward to thanking you and celebrating your gift. Whenever possible, we will provide photos and/or impact quotes showing your generosity in action. With your permission, we may feature your gift in our social media, newsletter or blog.

THANK YOU

The Children First Fund serves as a knowledge hub and liaison between Chicago Public Schools (CPS) and its community of partners, securing and organizing resources that equitably advance CPS' mission to provide a high-quality public education that prepares every child in every neighborhood for success in college, career, and civic life. As the district's only fiscal agent, the Children First Fund is best positioned to help direct your resources for maximum impact.

