

Partners in Education



Connecting Individuals & Businesses With

Schools



Orange County Public Schools

How to become a Partner in Education

A partnership should include activities that occur throughout the school year. The school and business should plan at least three activities for the year.

1. Select and contact the school, program, or department of your choice.
2. Contact the individual school's Partners in Education coordinator. For more information about how you and/or your company can be involved call the Community Resources office at **407.317.3323**. You may also partner districtwide, which allows you to make your resources available to all schools in the district.
3. Complete a partnership agreement form.
4. Begin partnership activities.

Testimonials

"I know it's hard to do your job and help a school at the same time but keep in mind that we really are happy to have you on our side to support us. You help teachers, students, and staff members in every different way."

Ashley, fourth grader, Palmetto Elementary

"When Central Florida Hotel & Lodging Association approached me with the Adopt-a-School Program, I had no idea what was waiting for us as a company. Our thought was to get together and help the community, but once involved, the reward and the satisfaction of seeing a smile on people's faces have been unbelievable. Thank you OCPS for giving us the opportunity to be a supporting partner in our community."

George Fakhoury

Area Manager

Dollar Thrifty Automotive Group, Inc.

"The math mentoring program Lockheed Martin started three years ago with a handful of mentors has grown into a successful program that serves 45 students each week for the entire school year. FCAT scores have increased dramatically since the program began."

Christine Morano

School *PIE* Coordinator, *Winegard Elementary*

Community Resources

445 West Amelia Street, 5th floor

Orlando, Florida 32801

Phone: 407.317.3323 • Fax: 407.317.3395

Web site: volunteer.ocps.net



Partners in Education



**Orange County
Public Schools**

How You Can Get Involved

Target Employees Making A Difference



Bringing the Community into the Classroom... Partners in Education

The Partners in Education program builds relationships between businesses, organizations and schools that enhance student learning and promote school improvement. Connecting the academic and business communities within the county allows us to provide students with even

more opportunities for success. In a partnership, a business adopts a school or schools and shares its resources. This support supplements the work of professional educators and enriches the lives of students. Partnerships are designed to be dynamic, innovative and mutually beneficial.

What's In It for Me?

Benefits for Education

Student Achievement: The involvement of businesses significantly increases student achievement. Students expand their learning horizons, have more interest in school, make better grades and realize a deeper understanding of their role in society toward becoming a productive citizen.

Role Models: Business partners act as positive role models for students by providing personal and professional guidance. The result is confidence, self-esteem, pride, motivation and higher aspirations for students.

Resources: Financial, human and in-kind resources help meet the needs of students, schools and professional educators.

Relationships: Public schools cannot thrive without the support of the community. Business partners help communicate education needs to the community so we might continue to achieve mutual goals and objectives.

Benefits for Business

Work Force: Enhance the economic well-being of Central Florida by maintaining an educated workforce.

Image: Become known for contributing to the community.

Recognition: Receive appreciation for business talents, products, and community achievement.

Exposure to Community Diversity: Learn about different cultures and find new markets for services and products.

Employee Benefits: Improve company morale and employee satisfaction by helping others.



Ways to Become Involved

People

Provide time for employees to volunteer in the schools of their choice

Serve as volunteer, mentor, tutor, chaperone, or guest speaker

Conduct school or community beautification projects

Participate in various school events like health fairs, school carnivals, science fairs

Participate in a school, district advisory council, or parent association

Provide employment, internships, or job-shadowing opportunities

Financial

Provide financial contributions

Sponsor field trips for students

Host a school supply or book drive

Offer scholarship opportunities for students/teachers

Sponsor district events and/or programs

Education

Provide mock interviews and information on how to complete a job or college application, or résumé

Provide workshops for parents, staff, faculty and administrators

Allow students to design holiday cards, covers for annual reports and other publications

Other Types of Contributions (In-Kind)

Provide incentives to students for achievement, good behavior, attendance, etc.

Donate equipment or materials for classroom use



How Schools Give Back

Recognition on a marquee, in a school newsletter, at a PTA meeting or on a school Web site

Thank-you notes from students

Student artwork for partners to display

Invitations to special school programs

Appreciation breakfast or luncheon program for partners

Nomination of partners for local, state and national awards

Specific feedback about the partnership's impact on students and the schools

Plaques, banners or certificates to thank partners for their commitment

Photographs of students and partners working together

For more information: **Partners in Education**

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Web site: volunteer.ocps.net

**My organization is interested in partnering
with an Orange County public school.
Please contact my organization to help select a school.**

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Daytime phone: _____

E-mail address: _____

The School Board of Orange County, Florida, does not discriminate in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, marital status, disability, genetic information or any other reason prohibited by law. The Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Supervisor responsible for compliance is Carianne Reggio. Compliance matters relating to Section 504 and Title IX should also be submitted to Carianne Reggio at the Educational Leadership Center, 445 W. Amelia Street, Orlando, Florida 32801. (407.317.3200)



Mentor looks on as students use their imagination.



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Connecting Individuals & Businesses With **SciTools**