



EDUCATION  
FOUNDATION  
OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

# School Supply Drive Toolkit

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Education Foundation of Palm Beach County: Red Apple Supplies

7071 Garden Road - Riviera Beach, FL 33404 | 561-951-5527 | [EducationFoundationPBC.org](http://EducationFoundationPBC.org)



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## *Tell the Story*

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The Education Foundation of Palm Beach County believes that every child in Palm Beach County deserves equal opportunity and access to a quality education. The Education Foundation's signature program, Red Apple Supplies, provides teachers with FREE school supplies so teachers do not have to dip into their pockets to pay for supplies and so students in under-resourced schools get the supplies they need to succeed.

### The Need.

Nearly 70% of students in Palm Beach County are enrolled in the National School Lunch Program, receiving free or reduced priced meals. For these students, school supplies are a luxury. Many arrive at school without a single pencil or notebook, unable to participate in day-to-day lessons and activities.

### Show the Connection.

- **120,000+** students are living in poverty (based on their participation in the National School Lunch Program)
- **\$875** - The average amount teachers spend of their own pay to purchase supplies for students that cannot afford them

**By providing essential school supplies for teachers and students, you will create environments where teachers can focus on teaching and students focus on learning.**





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## *What Makes a Great Supply Drive?*

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Here are just a few ideas help you plan your school supply drive. People of all ages can make a difference in the achievements of students during the school year by participating:

- **Make it an event.** Build excitement by planning your supply drive over a fixed timeframe. Establish a goal to encourage participation.
  - A one-day event in which donations are brought to one location to fill a school bus/large truck.
  - A week or month-long collection with barrels or boxes in stores, businesses, and highly trafficked areas where items can be dropped off.
- **The power of one.** Hold a drive for just one item, like notebooks or folders. We can never have enough of the core items- pencils, folders, notebooks, crayons, glue sticks, markers, etc. See the full wish list on page 3.
- **Partner with an organization.** Try involving community service organizations like the Girl Scouts or sports leagues.
- **Try something fun.** What about holding your supply drive in conjunction with a jump rope contest or chalk sidewalk art that can be shared on social media? Turn your drive into a fun celebration of what having the right supplies can do.
- **Shopping for good.** How about reaching out to local retailers and merchants to help connect with their customers. Provide posters for their storefront or provide graphics for their social media channels.
- **Get social.** Tap into your online social network to get the word out, look for volunteers, and share supply drive information. [#EFPBCSupplyDrive](#)

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## *Starting Your Supply Drive*

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Here are a few options for your supply drive before you get started:

### **Type of drive:**

- Supplies only (see full supply list on page 3)
- Supplies + financial support (designated for supplies)
- Financial support only designated for supplies (online and/or in-person)

### **Method of collection:**

- One-day event
- Designated timeframe of collection (week/month/etc.)

Let us know if you would like donation boxes  
to place throughout your workplace or venue



# School Supply Drive Toolkit



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## *Online Donations*

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Financial donations are an efficient way to help the greatest number of local students! The Education Foundation of Palm Beach County can leverage your investment of \$25 to equip one (1) student with a backpack filled with essential school supplies.

- **\$500** to sponsor a class of twenty backpacks filled with essential school supplies
- **\$250** includes ten backpacks filled with essential school supplies
- **\$100** Includes four backpacks filled with essential school supplies
- **\$25** provides a student in need with a backpack filled with essential school supplies

[Click Here to Give Online](#)

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## *Amazon Wish List & Amazon Smile*

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You can easily donate school supplies online by purchasing items from the [EFPBC Amazon Wish List](#) which will also be delivered directly to Red Apple Supplies.

Shop **Amazon Smile** by designating "Education Foundation of Palm Beach County" as your charity of choice and a portion of any purchase you make will help strengthen public education in Palm Beach County.

1. Sign in to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) on your desktop or mobile phone browser.
2. From your desktop, go to "Your Account" from the navigation at the top of any page, and then select the option to Change your **Charity**. ...
3. Select **Education Foundation of Palm Beach County** as your **charitable** organization.



2022-2023

## School Supply Wish List

- Backpacks
- Color Pencils & Markers (8-12 count)
- Composition Books (wide-ruled)
- Construction Paper
- Dry Erase Markers
- Erasers (wedge)
- Glue Sticks
- Highlighters
- Scotch Tape
- Student Dry Erase Board (small)
- Pencils
- Crayons
- Flip Chart Markers
- Student Headphones / Earbuds

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## Teacher Testimonials

Teachers love to share stories about the impact that access to free school supplies have on their students! We collected the following testimonials which demonstrate the difference supplies make on students every day in the classroom!

*“A student came to school without any supplies at all. I asked if they had at least a pencil and paper. I was told, ‘My mom didn't buy anything for me because she said she doesn't have the money’. I was able to make them a supply bag. It made a huge difference for the student. He was not left out and was proud of his new supplies.”*

~2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher, Rolling Green Elementary~

*“It saves me time and money. I am able to have supplies available for various lessons to engage all learners.”*

~Elizabeth Thompson, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher, Pahokee Middle High School~



*“One day a student came into the room in tears asking to staple his backpack, again. He was beginning to become embarrassed because of this. Instead of grabbing the stapler, this time I was able to grab two backpacks and let him choose one. His face lit up like a star! “*

~Special Needs Teacher, U.B. Kinsey Elementary~

*“I spend a lot of money on notebooks and pencils for my students, so they are ready for school each year. RAS the last 3 years has nearly eliminated my need to buy supplies with my own money.”*

~4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher, Barton Elementary~



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## *Tips for Success*

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### How do you want to collect supplies?

Two popular options include:

- A designated day, week, or month-long collection with barrels or boxes in stores and businesses
- A one-day event in which the community brings donations to fill a school bus, or a large truck or supplies are collected in conjunction with a corporate, community, or sporting event

### Who will you invite to participate?

Engage corporations, businesses and individuals in your community who will help promote and support your project. Share details about your drive in your social media, text messages, emails, etc. Issue a press release about your drive and follow up with local media about running your story. Create signs and posters to promote your drive. Post information on internal company websites or communication channels.

### Collect what students need most.

The Education Foundation of Palm Beach County is grateful to accept all new school supplies. According to teachers, crayons, glue sticks, markers, notebooks, pencils, and pens are what they need most. Please avoid any used school supplies or items that have offensive words, artwork, or symbols on the packaging or surface.

### Try a friendly competition!

Create competitions among businesses, departments, and individuals to see who can collect the most supplies.

### Coordinate drop-off date and time of your collected supplies.

When your supply drive is complete, deliver your collected supplies to Red Apple Supplies (7071 Garden Road – Riviera Beach, FL 33404). Please coordinate a day and time for drop-off by emailing [Lloyd@EducationFoundationPBC.org](mailto:Lloyd@EducationFoundationPBC.org) or [Teresa@EducationFoundationPBC.org](mailto:Teresa@EducationFoundationPBC.org)

### Follow-up!

Send thank-you letters to all who supported your drive, letting them know how much their support means. Let them know how many supplies were collected and how students will be able to participate in their classroom activities because of your school supply drive. You can also invite them to volunteer at Red Apple Supplies so they can see the true impact of their support.

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## *Sample Social Media Messages*

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Below are a few samples of social media messages for promoting your school supply drive through your organization or personal social media channels.

- Join us in empowering students and teachers! We are collecting school supplies to support under-resourced students. You can support the supply drive by [\[insert ways to support here\]](#). All supplies collected will benefit students through the Education Foundation of Palm Beach County. Visit [EducationFoundationPBC.org](http://EducationFoundationPBC.org) for more information.
- We are hosting a school supply drive! Join us in providing supplies to under-resourced students across the Palm Beach County through the Education Foundation of Palm Beach County. We believe that every child in Palm Beach County should have equal opportunity and access to a quality education. It is more than just a backpack.
- A quality education is the best gateway to opportunity. Help us put supplies in the hands of under-resourced students so they are ready to learn. You can help by [\[insert ways to support here\]](#). All supplies [and funds] raised will benefit under-resourced classrooms through the Education Foundation of Palm Beach County. Visit [EducationFoundationPBC.org](http://EducationFoundationPBC.org) for more information.
- Teachers are dedicated to serving the 120,000+ students living in poverty by purchasing much needed supplies for students out of their own pocket. Join us in supporting these educators and students through the Education Foundation of Palm Beach County by joining our school supply drive. You can help by [\[insert ways to help\]](#). For more information, visit [EducationFoundationPBC.org](http://EducationFoundationPBC.org)

