

# School and Community Progress Funding Opportunities



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**Polk Bros. Foundation Community Schools Leadership Network**

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*Updated for the Burnham Centennial  
Principal Meeting, April 29, 2009*

The following pages include currently available funding opportunities.  
For additional information about grants, contact these organizations.

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Donors Forum</b> <a href="http://donorsforum.org">http://donorsforum.org</a>	Illinois philanthropy and nonprofit resources, education, leadership, and network. Publishes the Illinois Funding Source online and Illinois Foundation Directory.
<b>Foundation Center</b> <a href="http://foundationcenter.org">http://foundationcenter.org</a>	The Foundation Center is a resource to locate funders including corporations and foundations that offer a large range of grants.
<b>Grants Alert</b> <a href="http://www.grantsalert.com">http://www.grantsalert.com</a>	This site makes life a little easier for those who devote their time to searching for education grants and identifying new funding opportunities for their organizations, schools, districts, consortia and state education agencies.
<b>School Funding Center</b> <a href="http://www.schoolfundingcenter.info">http://www.schoolfundingcenter.info</a>	This site has information about more than 110,000 school grants awarded to both individual U.S. campuses and entire districts each year. It monitors more than 4000 websites, newsletters, and other grant sources to give you The School Funding Center grant database is a central location where educators can find federal, state, and foundation grants available to their schools.
<b>Guide Star</b> <a href="http://www.guidestar.org/">http://www.guidestar.org/</a>	Connecting people with non-profit information.
<b>SchoolGrants</b> <a href="http://k12grants.org">http://k12grants.org</a>	This site has information about available grants and also has sample proposals and other resources to prepare grant proposals.

For grant proposal-writing toolkits: <http://teacher.depaul.edu>  
Polk Bros. Foundation Center for Urban Education at DePaul University

## YOUTH DEVELOPMENT/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

**Focus:** Education/Youth Development  
**Funder:** TCF Bank

**Website:** [http://www.tcfbank.com/About/about\\_community\\_relations\\_il.jsp](http://www.tcfbank.com/About/about_community_relations_il.jsp)

**Funding Level:** Grants range between \$2,500 and \$7,500.

**Deadline for Application:** July 13<sup>th</sup> & October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

**Description:** Charitable contributions include public schools, private schools and nonprofit community organizations providing direct developmental services for young people regardless of the program area. Greater consideration is given to programs serving low-to-moderate income individuals and families.

**Focus:** Volunteerism and Youth Leadership  
**Funder:** The Comcast Foundation

**Website:** <http://www.comcast.com/corporate/about/inthecommunity/foundation/comcastfoundation.html>

**Funding Level:** average: \$5,000-\$30,000

**Deadline for Application:** Ongoing

**Description:** We provide financial support to the organizations that make our communities stronger. We're most excited by literacy, volunteerism, and youth leadership programs.

**Focus:** Service Learning  
**Funder:** State Farm Foundation

**Website:** [http://www.statefarm.com/about/part\\_spos/grants/grants.asp](http://www.statefarm.com/about/part_spos/grants/grants.asp)

**Funding Level:** \$250--\$50,000

**Deadline for Application:** Ongoing

**Description:** To help people realize their dreams, we support programs that enable home ownership, create safe neighborhoods, and build strong communities.

**Focus:** Children's Development and Leadership  
**Funder:** Best Buy Foundation

**Website:** [http://www.bestbuyinc.com/community\\_relations/](http://www.bestbuyinc.com/community_relations/)

**Funding Level:** Grant amounts will average \$5,000-\$7,000, not to exceed \$10,000.

**Deadline for Application:** Apply between May 15<sup>th</sup> and June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

**Description:** Employees in each of Best Buy's regions select non-profit organizations that support programs and services that provide opportunities for young teens related to education, life skills, leadership skills or relationship development.

**Focus:** Learning & Leadership Grants and Student Achievement Grants  
**Funder:** National Education Association Foundation (NEA Foundation)

**Website:** <http://www.neafoundation.org/>

**Funding Level:** \$1,000, \$2,000 and \$5,000

**Deadline for Application:** June 1<sup>st</sup>, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

**Description:** Improve the academic achievement of students by engaging in critical thinking and problem solving that deepen knowledge of standards-based subject matter. The work should also improve students' habits of inquiry, self-directed learning, and critical reflection.

**Focus:** Hands-On Projects to Improve the Environment  
**Funder:** The Captain Planet Foundation

**Website:** <http://www.captainplanetfoundation.org/>

**Funding Level:** \$250-\$2,500

**Deadline for Application:** Ongoing with quarterly deadlines: March 31<sup>st</sup>, June 30<sup>th</sup>, September 30<sup>th</sup>, December 31<sup>st</sup> (annually)

**Description:** "The mission of the Captain Planet Foundation is to support hands-on environmental projects for youth in grades K-12. Our objective is to encourage innovative activities that empower children around the world to work individually and collective as environmental stewards. Through ongoing education, we believe that children can play a vital role in preserving our precious natural resources for future generations."

**Focus:** Youth-led projects  
**Funder:** Dosomething.org

**Website:** <http://www.dosomething.org/grants/general/apply>

**Funding Level:** \$500

**Deadline for Application:** a new project is selected every week in 2009.

**Description:** Did you recently create a sustainable community action project, program or organization or have a great idea for helping your community? Do you need \$500 to further the growth and success of your program or turn your idea into reality? If you answered, "YES!", you are eligible to apply for a Do Something Grant.

**Focus:** Violence Prevention  
**Funder:** Target

**Website:** [https://www.grantrequest.com/SID\\_491/?SA=SNA&FID=35013](https://www.grantrequest.com/SID_491/?SA=SNA&FID=35013)

**Funding Level:** \$1000 - \$3000

**Deadline for Application:** May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009

**Description:** Target store grants support to non-profit programs that help prevent family violence, such as parenting classes and family counseling. We also provide assistance for support groups and abuse shelters.

**COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS TO ENHANCE LEARNING  
AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE COMMUNITY**

**Focus:** Parent Involvement and Community Improvement  
**Funder:** Lowe's

**Website:** <http://www.toolboxforeducation.com/>

**Funding Level:** \$2,000 to \$5,000

**Deadline for Application:** Information for 2009-2010 deadlines will be posted on the website in July.

**Description:** There is a preference for funding requests that have a permanent impact such as facility enhancement (both indoor and outdoor) as well as landscaping/clean up type projects. Projects that encourage parent involvement and build stronger community spirit will be favored.

**Focus:** School gardening  
**Funder:** Chicago Botanical Garden

**Website:** <http://www.chicagobotanic.org/community/index.php> and more school gardening information at <http://www.schoolgardenwizard.org/>

**Funding Level:** paired up with an "Assistant."

**Deadline for Application:** call (847) 835-8352 for more information

**Description:** *Gardening Outside the Walls* matches volunteers interested in lending a helping hand at community and school gardens on a regular basis with gardens in the city that fit their schedule, location and interests. Each garden receives a small budget with which to purchase garden enhancements and/or snacks for garden workdays.

**Focus:** Gardening/Science  
**Funder:** The National Gardening Association (NGA)

**Website:** <http://www.kidsgardening.com/grants.asp>

**Funding Level:** varies

**Deadline for Application:** Hydroponics Project on September 18<sup>th</sup> and the Healthy Sprouts Aware on October 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Description:** Funds projects that increase students' knowledge of science with hands-on gardening.

**INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS TO ENRICH THE CURRICULUM  
THAT CAN CONNECT SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY**

**Focus:** Children with Disabilities Inclusion  
**Funder:** CVS Caremark Community Grants

**Website:** <http://www.cvscaremark.com/community/our-impact/community-grants>

**Funding Level:** Up to \$5,000

**Deadline for Application:** Applications are accepted January 1<sup>st</sup> - October 31<sup>st</sup>

**Description:**

CVS Caremark is devoted to supporting organizations that enrich the lives of children with disabilities through inclusive programs. Through their Community Grants Program they work to ensure that students are not left behind in school. Proposed programs must be fully inclusive where children with disabilities are full participants in an early childhood, adolescent, or teenage programs along side their typically developing peers.

**Focus:** Literacy and Technology  
**Funder:** Verizon Foundation

**Website:** <http://foundation.verizon.com/grant/>

**Funding Level:** Average grant size: \$5,000 to \$10,000

**Deadline for Application:** Proposals are reviewed on a continuous basis from January 1 through October 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Description:**

Verizon Foundation is investing in online resources, community-based initiatives and national programs that teach nonreaders to read and advance the complex skills necessary for educational achievement and job success in the 21st Century.

**Focus:** Teacher Grants for Student Projects  
**Funder:** Donors Choose

**Website:** <http://www.donorschoose.org>

**Funding Level:** \$100 and up

**Deadline for Application:** Ongoing

**Description:** DonorsChoose.org is a simple way to provide students in need with resources that our public schools often lack. At this not-for-profit web site, teachers submit project proposals for materials or experiences their students need to learn. These ideas become classroom reality when concerned individuals, whom we call Citizen Philanthropists, choose projects to fund.

**Focus:** Literacy and Reading  
**Funder:** First Book

**Website:** <http://register.firstbook.org/>

**Deadline for Application:** Ongoing

**Description:** First Book provides access to award-winning new books for free as well as other deeply discounted new books and educational materials.

**Focus:** Literacy and Arts Education  
**Funder:** JPMorgan Chase

**Website:** <http://www.jpmorganchase.com/cm/cs?pagename=Chase/Href&urlname=jpmc/community/grants/obtain>

**Deadline for Application:** Throughout the year

**Description:** We support programs that promote early childhood literacy and school readiness. We promote partnerships that build capacity within public schools, with particular emphasis on programs that support the middle-school years and engage students in the arts and/or technology. We support financial literacy programs for young people. We support programs that help non-traditional and underserved students prepare for and gain access to college.

**Focus:** Music  
**Funder:** Mockingbird Foundation

**Website:** <http://www.mockingbirdfoundation.org/>

**Funding Level:** \$50 - \$5,000.

**Deadline for Application:** August 1, 2009

**Description:** The Mockingbird Foundation, Inc. ("Mockingbird") offers competitive grants to schools and nonprofit organizations that effect improvements in music education for children

**Focus:** Music  
**Funder:** VH1 Save the Music Foundation

**Website:** <http://www.vh1savethemusic.com/>

**Funding Level:** \$30,000 worth of new instruments are donated to eligible schools.

**Deadline for Application:** Applications are open until June 1, 2009

**Description:** The VH1 Save The Music Foundation provides grants of \$30,000 worth of new musical instruments to public elementary and middle schools. Each school has the choice of selecting a package of: band, string, keyboard lab, guitar lab, or mariachi instruments.

**Focus:** Music  
**Funder:** Chely Wright Foundation

**Website:** <http://www.rwandr.org/index.htm>

**Funding Level:** Depends on request and need – instruments are given, not money.

**Deadline for Application:** Applications are accepted online continuously at <http://www.rwandr.org/index.htm?id=10070>

**Description:** Schools with small music programs in need of instruments or music education resources.

**Focus:** Education  
**Funder:** Harris Bank

**Website:** [https://www4.harrisbank.com/communityaffairs/0,2289,16473026\\_20987751,00.html](https://www4.harrisbank.com/communityaffairs/0,2289,16473026_20987751,00.html)

**Funding Level:** Average grant size is \$5,000 to \$35,000

**Deadline for Application:** Ongoing

**Eligibility:** All public schools are eligible; however, giving is emphasized within the North Lawndale neighborhood.

**Description:** Grants focus on education, financial literacy, and economic development. This includes affordable housing and support for community development organizations. Recognizing that arts and culture greatly enhance the quality of life for all people in their community, Harris also supports organizations with this mission.

**Focus:** Creative Curricular Projects  
**Funder:** The Chicago Foundation for Education

**Website:** [www.cfegrants.org](http://www.cfegrants.org)

**Funding Level:**

- Small Grants: \$500, an additional \$100 is also possible
- Teachers Network Leadership Institute (TNLI) Fellowship: up to \$1250

**Deadline for Application:**

TNLI Fellowship – June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Small Grants – Application for 2009-2010 school year should be online by mid-May and the deadline is mid-October with decisions made by mid-December.

**Focus:** Early Childhood Reading  
**Funder:** Target

**Website:** <http://sites.target.com/site/en/company/page.jsp?contentId=WCMP04-031821>

**Funding Level:** \$1,000 - \$3,000

**Deadline for Application:** May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009

**Description:** Reading grants are awarded to schools, libraries and nonprofit organizations, supporting programs such as weekend book clubs and after-school reading programs that foster a love of reading and encourage children, from birth through age 9, to read together with their families.

**Focus:** Science, Youth Education  
**Funder:** American Honda Foundation

**Website:** <http://corporate.honda.com/america/philanthropy.aspx?id=ahf>

**Funding Level:** Average: \$20,000-\$60,000

**Deadline for Application:** August 1, 2009.

**Description:** Grants are provided in the fields of youth education and science education for academic or curriculum development that emphasize innovative educational methods and techniques.

**Focus:** Science and Mathematics  
**Funder:** Toshiba America Foundation

**Website:** <http://www.toshiba.com/tafpub/jsp/home/default.jsp>

**Funding Level:** \$500—\$5,000 and higher, based on grade level and program

**Deadline for Application:** Applications for grades K-6 are due by October 1, 2009. Applications for grants less than \$5,000 for grades 7-12 are accepted throughout the year for grants. The next large application grant (over \$5,000) for Grades 7-12 is due August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009.

**Description:** Toshiba America Foundation encourages projects with potential for improving classroom teaching and learning in science and mathematics. The Foundation strongly encourages projects planned and led by individual teachers or teams of teachers for their own classrooms.