



Aug. 25, 2023

Dear Superintendents and BOCES Directors,

I hope you are all having a good week. I know the beginning of the school year is an incredibly busy time for everyone!

I'm writing to let you know about a new project I'm very excited about. CDE is investing \$11 million in federal COVID-19 relief funds to help pre-K to 12th grade public school educators obtain classroom resources to support their students in learning acceleration to address the impact of the pandemic.

We are collaborating with [DonorsChoose](#), a 501(c)(3) charitable non-profit, to empower educators to obtain the classroom supplies they may need to support their students' academic growth. Each Colorado public school teacher can receive up to \$1,000 in project funding, which is approximately \$800 in supplies, from CDE, as long as funding lasts.

Your teachers can visit the [DonorsChoose Colorado Instruction Page](#) and submit a request for up to \$1,000 in classroom materials. DonorsChoose will review all requests and provide funding for all qualifying projects within about two to five days. Teachers can expect the materials to be shipped directly to the school shortly after. This initiative will be open to all teachers on a first come, first served basis until the funding runs out, which is expected to happen quickly.

Funding will be available for all types of classroom projects, such as science experiments, base-10 blocks, puzzles and games to help with reading skills and other classroom activities or learning aids to address the learning needs arising from the pandemic. Teachers should read the instruction page to determine what types of projects are eligible.

District leaders and principals who want to promote and track funded projects can sign up for the free [DonorsChoose District Partnership Program](#). The DonorsChoose District Partnership Program is free and provides district leaders with these tracking tools:

- Automatic alerts for school leaders every time a new project is posted.
- Ability to track all donated materials, and receive updates on projects.
- An annual report for district leaders.





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[CDE has created a communications toolkit for districts to use to share information about the DonorsChoose program.](#)

[Additional information on this program and how it ties into ESSER funding can be found on the CDE website.](#)

I hope your teachers are able to take advantage of this opportunity and that it helps them feel empowered to obtain classroom supplies that will make a difference for their students.

Thank you for your support with this exciting project!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susana Córdova".

Susana Córdova
Commissioner
Colorado Department of Education

