



Edina Give and Go is giving, growing, and going forward with your support.



Bringing life and learning opportunities to Edina Public Schools students who are economically disadvantaged

Thank you all so much! With your support Edina Give and Go will help ensure kids right here in Edina are able to participate in athletic, art and academic opportunities.

Total donated: \$7,600. We surpassed our goal of \$5,000 by 52%

Didn't get a chance to donate on November 17, there is still time!

[Donate Here](#) to help Edina students



NOV. 17, 2016

Now Collecting: Gym Shoes

Quarterly In Kind Donation Drive

Edina Give and Go is collecting new or gently used tennis shoes in adult sizes 6-10. These shoes will go to middle school students who are unable to fully participate in gym because they lack proper footwear.

There are 3 options for drop-off of school supplies:

- In the lobby of the Edina Community Center.
- In our office (room 336 of the Edina Community Center)
- At the Edina location of Red's Savoy Pizza (4960 W 77th St, Edina, MN 55435). **Red's Savoy has generously offered to give you \$5 off of your pizza purchase if you donate gym shoes.**



More than 50 Edina Families have Home Internet



Steve Buettner, Director of Media and Technology, and Jack Salaski, Instructional Technology Specialist, display a hotspot device.

How many times per day does your student access the internet in your home for school related reasons? Most Edina students in grades 6 and up must use the internet to access their homework assignments and even their textbooks. Families of students in all schools need internet access in order to communicate with teachers and to know what is happening in the district and at their schools. Edina Give and Go is proud to support the internet hotspot program run through District and Media Technology Services (DMTS). DMTS purchases the hotspot devices from Mobile Citizen, and we contribute \$120 per year to pay for 12 months of internet service for each family in need of home internet access.

At least 52 families who have students in Edina Public Schools would not have internet access without the support of Edina Give and Go. According to Steve Buettner, Director of Media and Technology services for Edina Public Schools, "The Digital Divide is a very real issue in our society and one that the school district is very aware of but cannot not solve on our own. To this end we endeavor to mitigate the issues of lack of Internet in the following ways:

- Extend the hours of our Media Centers
- As much as possible, offer a paper version of our content
- Seek to provide electronic content to mobile first, meaning that families can access information from a smartphone.
- Partner with city and other public institutions to identify and promote other public hot spots

Work with our partners, including Edina Give and Go, to be able to ensure that there is an equal playing field for all Edina Students

Through these efforts we hope to address the access needs in the district." Steve adds, "Without the help of partners like the Edina Give and Go, it would be difficult to address all the needs we have around access. We are so thankful for the partnership that has been put in place where we have a shared commitment to ensuring all students can access their digital content."

Feeling Thankful

November is a time to reflect and give thanks. I've been thinking about what I am grateful for, and I'd like to share part of my list with you:

Thankful for our students

Working with our youth is my passion. Every day they encourage me to get up and fight hard for a future that allows them to succeed; a future that is full of love and respect for all people regardless of socioeconomic status, race, gender, or political views.

Thankful for the life and learning opportunities I was given and that I can be a part of giving

My parents kept me busy outside of school. Sports teams allowed me to mingle with different groups of students through the changing sports seasons. Piano lessons kept me interested in the arts and culture. Different clubs and school activities challenged me to think of a bigger world than the small suburb in which I lived. Each of these opportunities was a gateway to the available life paths I would one day choose for myself, and I love that my job allows me to help students enjoy life and learning opportunities as well.

Thankful for my community

Supporters like you make my job possible. Your contributions enabled us to serve **more than 450** economically disadvantaged students in Edina Public Schools this past year--- somehow "thank you" does not seem to say enough. I hope you know how much I truly appreciate each and every one of you.

In Gratitude,

Abby Lugo

