

## ***BUSINESS PARTNER PROGRAM***

### **Purpose and Eligibility**

A partnership is a mutually supportive arrangement between a business and a school or a school district, in which the partner and the school commit to specific goals and activities, intended to enhance educational opportunities to benefit students and/or teachers. The Public Education Foundation effectuates this process in the form of an agreement called the Business Partnership Agreement.

The focus of partnerships differs for each company and school, but all partnerships share a common commitment to improving education. Individual schools and their community partners develop activities at their own pace, consistent with their needs and resources.

The partner may be a business, service organization, governmental agency, association, community group, faith-based organization or institution of higher education. An applicant whose mission, product or service is in conflict with the objectives of the Marion County School System or whose product or service is not legally available to minors will not be approved as a business partner.

***PUBLIC EDUCATION FOUNDATION OF MARION CO., INC***

***1239 NW 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Ocala, FL 34475***

***PH: 352-671-4167 - Fax 352-671-4168***

***www.pefmc.org***

***Equal Opportunity Program***



## ***BUSINESS PARTNER PROGRAM*** **Business Interaction with School**

Each school offers a variety of opportunities for your business or organization to be involved in meaningful partnerships that are mutually beneficial. There are numerous opportunities to support short-term, one-time, and ongoing projects. Your contribution of time, financial support and in-kind assistance ensures students are provided the resources needed to fully realize their educational potential. Here are a few examples of “manageable, repeatable, meaningful” partner activities.

### **Student Assistance**

- Tutor, mentor, read to students
- Serve as guest speakers, when appropriate, on career days
- Provide incentives for students who have improved attendance, academics, and behavior.
- Sponsor contests for reading, math, art, etc.
- Sponsor a field trip, special program, school club, or needy family at holiday times
- Provide career shadowing and job rotation for students, teachers, and administrators through school based vocational programs
- Provide student apprenticeships through school-based vocational programs
- Develop student internships through school-based vocational programs
- Provide display space for student art, poetry, etc.
- Target certain student populations to foster student success

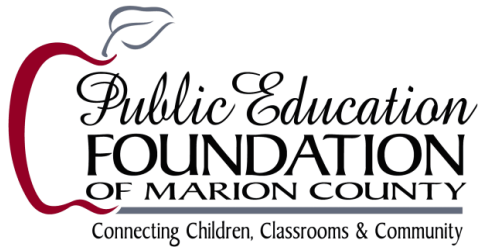
### **Teacher/ School Assistance**

- Provide access to technology and equipment needed to enhance curriculum
- Donate used equipment or surplus materials for curriculum
- Provide and/or support professional development activities to teachers
- Participate in school events as judges and emcee's for school events
- Support school fund-raising activities
- Serve on a school advisory council (SAC) or task force
- Provide recognition of teacher, student, and school achievements
- Underwrite school initiatives
- Write a letter to the editor regarding positive involvement with your school

### **All interactions between schools and business partners need to be in keeping with:**

- Board policy 3.70 and 9.40 which addresses solicitation and advertising in our schools
- Administrative Procedures for Volunteers

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## ***Business Partner Program***

### **Business Partner Recognition**

**Public Education Foundation: In appreciation the Foundation will provide the following:**

- Business Partner is introduced at a school board meeting and receives a plaque
- Recognition on the Foundation website
- Recognition in Golden Apple program
- Two tickets to annual Golden Apple recognition event
- Business listed in the annual report

**School based: In appreciation the school may provide the following:**

- Business Partner's logo on school newsletter
- Invitation to school events
- Invitation to participate on School Advisory Council
- Have students and teachers interact with the business --visit, send special cards or pictures, etc.

**Optional signage to be provided by the business partner:**

**Exterior:** a sign with the business partner name may be affixed to or placed adjacent to the school's existing exterior sign and will measure no more than 2' high by 4' long.

**Interior:** signage or banner of no more than 1' x 2', horizontal or vertical, for interior display (i.e., office, cafeteria, school events)

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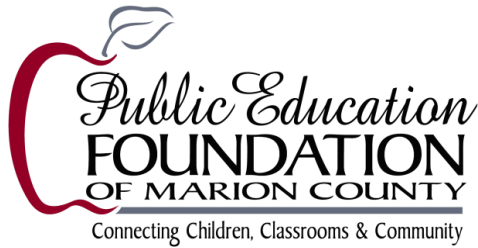


## ***Business Partner Program***

### ***Marion County Public Schools Administrative Procedures for Volunteers***

1. The District prohibits discrimination on the basis of religion against any group or individual desiring to volunteer in Marion County Schools.
2. Volunteers must maintain strict neutrality regarding religion while performing volunteer work for the schools.
3. Volunteers are prohibited from engaging in proselytizing activities or recruiting activities of any type on school grounds or in conjunction with any school activity, and must strictly follow directions given them by school officials.
4. Religious apparel is permissible if it is required by a person's religion, is part of the person's ordinary work dress and would not be disruptive of the school environment and does not contain a proselytizing message.
5. Volunteers, including those from religious organizations, serving in the schools and interacting directly with student's on a regular basis, shall wear a district approved volunteer name tag containing the individual's first and last name, and shall sign a form acknowledging that they understand and will abide by the provisions of this procedure.
6. School officials are responsible to monitor the behavior and interactions of volunteers while they are serving in schools or participating in school activities. Volunteers who fail to comply with the provisions of this procedure shall be asked to leave the school or activity. Ultimate responsibility for enforcement of this procedure at the school level rests with the building administrator.

*Effective August 21, 2008*



## ***BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM AGREEMENT***

### **\$3,000 minimum financial support**

The amount of financial support includes an annual \$500 contribution for the Golden Apple Teacher Recognition program and other teacher retention initiatives sponsored by the Public Education Foundation of Marion County, Inc. This \$500 helps defray the costs of tickets for each school's participants to attend the Golden Apple Event held in February of each year. Those participants include: the teacher of the year and his/her guest, the principal and his/her guest. The business partner also receives 2 tickets to the event. In addition, your contribution enables us to provide a cash award to each school's teacher of the year. Other teacher retention initiatives include; new teacher orientation, professional development, peer mentoring and the Golden Apple Academy.

**All financial commitments are to run through the Public Education Foundation of Marion County, Inc.**

The Foundation will send the designated funds to the school. The purpose of using the Foundation as the fiscal agent is to track the amount of business dollars going to our schools. In turn, the Foundation submits the business partnership to the School Board for approval and to be publicly recognized at a School Board meeting. At that time, the business partner and the school each receive a plaque. The business partner is also listed in the Foundation's annual report, which is distributed to all of the school and community supporters of the Foundation. Because the Foundation is a 501(c) 3 non-profit corporation your contribution will be substantiated and can be used as a deduction for tax reporting purposes.

**In appreciation of your participation in the Business Partner program the Foundation will provide you with the following:**

- Two tickets to the Golden Apple recognition event
- Recognition in Golden Apple program distributed to 400 people
- Recognition on the Public Education Foundation website
- Recognition in annual report

### **Responsibilities:**

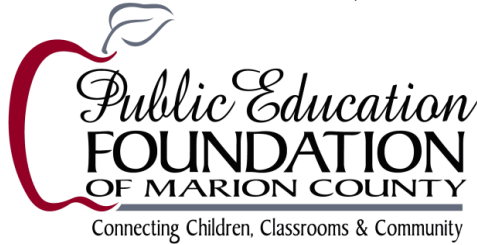
- CEO or designee will meet annually with the Principal to develop an annual partnership plan
- Participate in the development of the school's School Improvement Plan
- CEO or designee is encouraged to serve on the School Advisory Council
- Partner can provide signage for the school-its location to be agreed upon by the principal and business
- Complete an annual survey for the Public Education Foundation on the activities of the partnership.

This survey is used to nominate business partnerships for the Commissioner's Business Recognition.

### **Awards sponsored by the Florida Department of Education:**

- Sign the initial Business Partnership Agreement and then sign again on an annual basis.

**This agreement is for three years but is subject to annual renewal if both partners are in agreement.**



**BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT**

I have read the expectations listed above for a School/Business Partnership and understand my obligation to the School/Business Partnership for \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
School Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Business Partner Name Principal's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Business Partner Signature Principal's Signature

Principal, please describe how the donation will be used: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Method of Payment:**

The total annual financial commitment is \$3000, of which \$500 is retained by the Public Education Foundation to be used for the Golden Apple Recognition program, Golden Apple Academy and other teacher recognition and retention initiatives.

Our fiscal year begins \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Please invoice me: \_\_\_\_\_ Annually in the month of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Semiannually in the months of \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Check is included. Make check payable to **Public Education Foundation of Marion Co.**

\_\_\_\_\_ Charge my: VISA \_\_\_ MC \_\_\_ AmEx \_\_\_ Disc. \_\_\_ Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

This agreement is for three years but is subject to annual renewal if both partners are in agreement.

**Sign and return this form via mail or fax to:**

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***BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM***  
**Business Partnership Application**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact name (if not principal): \_\_\_\_\_

School address/zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Business: \_\_\_\_\_

(as it should appear on plaque)

CEO name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact name (if not CEO): \_\_\_\_\_

Business address/zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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