

How better to be involved with your community than by volunteering your time with Oak Park's most precious resource —

## Its students?

An hour a week can mean the difference between success and failure for a student. A project your company sponsors can inspire a whole classroom's desire to learn.

The variety of volunteer opportunities ensures that there will be one to suit you and your company, whether you have three employees or 3,000.

## Financial Sponsorship Only

Businesses/Organizations may also choose to be overall Pioneer Volunteer sponsors, with the proceeds used to cover printing, marketing, program support and administrative costs.

### Platinum Level

\$10,000 or more in either cash or in-kind donations (This is approximately \$1,000 a month for the school year)

### Gold Level

\$5,000 or more in either cash or in-kind donations

### Silver Level

\$1,000 or more in either cash or in-kind donations

### Bronze Level

\$500 or more in either cash or in-kind donations

### Individual Level

\$499 or less in either cash or in-kind donations

Donations are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

## Partners are responsible for:

- Completing the web-based interest form
- Each volunteer must attend a partnership training session
- Designate a liaison to work with the leadership of the assigned school on the details of the partnership.
- Ensuring that each volunteer completes the required background check, whose cost must be covered by either the volunteer or the organization.

## Pioneer Partnership Requirements

**In-Kind- Contributions:** To be determined in consultation with the school leadership team. Examples could include educational supplies, newspaper and magazine subscriptions or supplies for specialized programs, such as culinary, music, art, etc.

**Leadership Exchange:** Principal/CEO for a Day – The school principal and the organization's executive will shadow jobs for a day to exchange ideas and best practices.

**Student Incentives:** Offer incentives to improve student attendance, and academic performance including field trips, tickets to events, internships, book bags, supplies, etc.

**Professional Development:** Offer teachers and principals professional development opportunities with business employees. Provide funds needed to attend seminars.

**Scholarships:** Offer scholarships to qualified students to attend college, or other education experiences, such as seminars, competitions and conferences.

**Speakers:** Sponsor speakers (authors, community leaders, etc) to visit the school and engage with students.

**Community Exposure:** sponsor or chaperone field trips to cultural institutions, children's hospitals, markets, parks, and/or offer class tours of your company. Serve as guest speakers in the school.



Oak Park School District

13900 Granzon, Oak Park, MI 48237

# *Inspire* the Desire to Learn



## *Pioneers* In Education

*Business, Community & Faith-Based Organization Partnership*

**Tel: 248-336-7705**

# Opportunities to Make a Difference

## Mission

Founded in February, 2011, the mission of the program is to create robust partnerships between schools and area business, community and faith-based organizations to improve academic achievement and exposure opportunities in the Oak Park School District.

## About the Program

Area business, community and faith-based groups will forge partnerships with one or more schools in an effort to support the district's move from "good" to "great." The Superintendent's Office will assist with and provide service to all pioneer partners, which will include new partner pairings as well as existing partnerships that choose to continue working with the district. Relationships will be assigned based on the following priority areas.

- How the business/organization's specialty aligns with the schools academic focus
- Organization's preferred school (s)
- Organization's geographic location in relation to school building
- Previous school partnerships

Each partnership will be unique, and will be designed by the partner in conjunction with the school's principal or designee. Together, schools and their pioneer partners will develop programs that will specifically address each school's needs.

## Pioneer Volunteers

Pioneer Volunteers are required to attend a training session prior to starting their assignment. Because seating is limited, we request that volunteers RSVP for training sessions to: 248-336-7705 or [partners@oakparkschools.org](mailto:partners@oakparkschools.org)

## Here are just a few examples of how you can get involved:

- Mentor or tutor a student
- Read or be read to by a student
- Provide real-world projects for students to solve
- Serve as a judge for an academic competition or fair
- Develop a classroom-based mock business
- Provide career-shadowing and internship experiences
- Have employees serve as career mentors and/or career day speakers
- Sponsor or chaperone a field trip
- Donate equipment, training and materials
- Create incentive and motivation programs to reward students for achievement
- Level the playing field for students in lower economic brackets by paying for participation in a field trip, buying a school uniform, or supporting our technology initiative by purchasing laptops for use in on-line classes.



## Rewards ... Yesterday, Tomorrow, Forever!

Your pioneer partnership and support will influence Oak Park School District Students ... students who will become our community's future leaders.

For Pioneers, the rewards are both immediate and long-term because a better education system translates directly to economic success right here in your community.

As a pioneer partner, your company will get positive exposure among students, faculty, parents and the community. And, you will get the personal satisfaction of knowing that you've helped students prepare for better futures and better lives.

Whether you are a small business or a major corporation, we need you to be involved. Pioneers in Education is an investment in your children, your community and your future.

## Join Pioneers in Education today!

To get started, see our website at [www.oakparkschools.org](http://www.oakparkschools.org), call us at 248-336-7705 or E-mail [partners@oakparkschools.org](mailto:partners@oakparkschools.org)