



Unified School District # 51

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Sponsor a Student Program

Sponsor 2023-2024

Dear Potential Sponsor,

Thank you for your interest in sponsoring one or more students for the 2023-24 school year. If you have sponsored in the past, hopefully you have received rewarding letters from your student(s).

Our district currently has about 2,400 students. Of those, there are 386 homeless and another 319 that are on the brink of homelessness. Homelessness is defined by the Federal Government as "lacking a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence".

Most of our homeless students live with their parents in someone else's home, usually grandparents. Most of the parents of these homeless students have a job and want to be able to provide a better life for their children. The main problem in our area is a lack of affordable housing.

There is no way we would be able to do so much without help from generous donors like you. I hope you will consider sponsoring one or more students for the 2023-24 school year.

Each month your sponsored student will receive a gift from you -

- August is a backpack with supplies for your student's grade level
- September is a pair of jeans, a shirt and a package of underwear
- October is a pair of shoes and a package of socks
- November is a coat and hat
- December is a gift from your student's wish list
- February is a pair of pajamas and a snuggly blanket or quilt
- March is a science kit or craft kit appropriate for your student's age and interests
- April is a pair of jeans or shorts, a shirt and a pair of shoes
- May is a swimming suit and towel

Your child will also receive a birthday gift at the beginning of his/her birthday month. There is no gift included in January because I simply don't have time to get the items ready to be picked up so soon after Christmas break. All items are new and purchased by me or one of my volunteer "shoppers".

The cost is minimal compared to the joy it brings to the children and the relief it brings to the parents who are not able to afford these items, especially if they have more than one child. I have raised the cost from \$180 for students ages 3-12 to \$190 and from \$225 for students ages 13-18 to \$230 because the cost of clothing has increased.

The students are "required" to write or draw a thank you to you every month which the parents return to me and I mail to you. Although it is required, some students do not get it done. I remind the parents every month and even provide thank you cards if they wish to use them. If students do not write their letters three or more times during the year, they may not participate the following year.

You will get a letter from me telling you about "your" student as soon as I can get permission slips returned and match the students to the sponsors. If I don't have enough permission slips returned and you don't get a student, your money will be saved until the following school year and you will be among the first to "receive" a student.

Although this program has its flaws (it's time consuming, permission slips don't get returned, parents forget to pick up the gifts, students don't write thank you notes, etc.), I think it has more benefits. If you could see the joy on the faces of the students and their parents that these simple gifts bring, you would understand why I continue to offer this program.

My 27 years of teaching first and second grade in this district did not prepare me for what I have learned in the last five years in this position as Family Resource Specialist. Most importantly, I have come to realize that there is no definition that fits all homeless people, no definition that fits all poor people and no definition that fits all the generosity I have discovered in our little community and the surrounding area.

Thank you so much for considering sponsoring one or more students,

Laurie Marley
Family Resource Specialist
Chino Valley Unified School District #51
lmalley@chinovalleyschools.com
928-583-5422



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Sponsor a Student Program
Sponsor 2023-24

Name(s) _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

What age child would you like to sponsor? _____ 3-12 _____ 13-18

What gender would you like to sponsor? _____ girl _____ boy _____ either

Please enclose a check made out to **Chino Valley Education Foundation**.

_____ Enclosed is **\$190** to **Chino Valley Education Foundation** to sponsor a student between the ages of 3-12 for the 2023-2024 school year.

_____ Enclosed is **\$230** to **Chino Valley Education Foundation** to sponsor a student between the ages of 13-18 for the 2023-2024 school year.

_____ I/We understand that if there are not enough students, my/our money may be held until the following year at which time I/we will be among the first to "receive" a student to sponsor.

Sponsor Signature _____ Date _____

Sponsor Signature _____ Date _____