



What is Circle the Schools?

Circle the Schools is a partnership between sf.citi, the San Francisco Education Fund (Ed Fund), and the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) to engage corporate partners to provide needed resources directly to schools and to cultivate our corporate community as champions and stewards of our schools. Circle the Schools is part of our collective efforts to transform public education, ensuring our students have the skills, experiences, & resources they need to live, work and thrive in San Francisco and beyond. For more on the vision for the future of San Francisco public schools, please read SFUSD's [Vision 2025](#).

How does it help?

Circle the Schools partners bring resources to our schools and students that individual schools and citizens alone cannot provide. First and foremost, they expose our students to the world of work – connecting them with experiences and role models that open their eyes to the careers and industries available to them right here in San Francisco. Second, corporate partners address needs that require concentrated resources and/or people power – like setting up classrooms for back to school or hosting a book drive to gather over 500 books to fill in the gaps in a school's library. Finally, through the partnership with the Ed Fund, these resources are coordinated as part of the bigger collective effort to help more students succeed on the path to college.

The funds raised through Circle the Schools not only cover the coordination and logistics associated with your specific company's events, they also help surround your school's students with additional tutors and mentors as well as provide flexible funds to teachers, principals and parents to ensure student's hit critical milestones on the path to college. Specifically we work together to help more students:

- Read proficiently by the third grade
- Successfully complete eighth grade math
- Prepare for college and a career

How does it work?

As a corporate partner, the Ed Fund will pair you with an elementary, middle or high school and will facilitate a conversation with you and school staff to determine which volunteer activities most closely align with the school's goals and needs. Based on that conversation, the partners choose a calendar of **3-5 corporate engagement events** (see following page) to take place during the school year and **donate \$5,000** to the San Francisco Education Fund for coordination of the specific events and all of the other community resources that are provided to the school through Ed Fund programming. At the end of each semester the Ed Fund will provide a report highlighting the school's achievements, the involvement of the company and our collective progress towards strengthening student success.

More ways to get involved

As companies get to know their schools, additional opportunities to deepen your partnership will be available – from helping the school with its transition to digital devices in the classroom to hosting student interns and beyond. When you are ready, the Ed Fund will work with you and your school to determine what additional types of engagement makes sense and how else you may be able to contribute to our city's vision for the future of public education.



Level 1: Sample Engagement Activities

❖ Elementary Literacy

- Run a school wide book give-away or drive for the school library, classrooms or student home.
- Organize classroom libraries or book rooms by theme and genre
- Build a literacy lab or writers workshop in classrooms or the library
- Participate in the annual African American Read-In or in a monthly school read aloud.

❖ Middle School Math

- Host a “mathlete” competition at a school to allow students to test and show off their growing math knowledge.
- Sponsor a field trip to Great America for Physics, Math & Science Day where students discover how math and science apply to amusement park excitement.

❖ High School College & Career Readiness

- Support high school seniors on Financial Aid Nights –Attend training and sit down with families and seniors to walk them through the financial aid application process.
- Volunteer as a career guest speaker – Using concepts the students have been learning in class, discuss projects you have worked on as a professional that relate, and share your journey from high school through college and into your career.
- Field trip to colleges—to help build student’s knowledge of college and career readiness.

❖ All Schools

- Field trip to work sites – Bring students to your offices to help build career knowledge and inspire them.
- Classroom set-up and site based cleanups – Support teachers to get their classrooms set up in the fall so that they are ready for their students on day one or help freshen up the school periodically.
- Provide student snacks for testing – Studies show that student who eat breakfast perform better on standardized tests.
- Host family literacy, math or science nights.
- Provide technology, books or resources for families.
- Help teach coding to students

Level 2: Sample On-Going Volunteer Opportunities

In addition to the episodic events above, corporate partners interested in a deeper level of commitment to a school can work to establish on-going relationships with the students who need their support the most.

- **Become a Mentor:** Support a student by meeting one-on-one, once a week with your mentee to discuss school success, personal interests and life goals. Mentoring helps increase school success and self-esteem while decreasing truancy.
- **Tutor One-on-One:** Work one-on-one with students on a particular subject once a week. Often students can excel greatly if provided some additional individual attention.
- **Serve as a Career Ally:** Partner with a career academy class to provide monthly support to classroom projects, help students develop career readiness skills, and connect students to real world experiences in their field.



About the Partners

sf.citi

San Francisco Citizens Initiative for Technology and Innovation (sf.citi) is a 501(c)6 organization created to leverage the power of the technology community around civic action in San Francisco. sf.citi supports innovative policies and works collaboratively with government to find new solutions to historic problems facing San Francisco, and consolidate a voice in promotion of tech sector interests and growth. As part of its #OneCity campaign, sf.citi is leading the effort to get technology companies directly involved in the most important issues facing San Francisco. Through projects like Circle the Schools, companies are able to work on the ground to make a difference in the communities where they live and work.

San Francisco Education Fund

The San Francisco Education Fund is dedicated to increasing the number of San Francisco public school students – in particular those from underserved communities – who graduate ready for college, careers and civic responsibility. Our programs focus on one goal: improving student success in San Francisco public schools. We focus community resources – volunteer time, money and collaborative partnerships—most intensively around three critical milestones on the path to college: students reading proficiently by the third grade, students successfully completing eighth grade math and high school students' level of preparedness for college and a career. Over its 50 year history the Ed Fund has played a critical role in facilitating partnerships like Circle the Schools to help companies and community members contribute to the success of our public schools.

San Francisco Unified School District

The San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) is the seventh largest school district in California, educating over 55,000 students every year. The mission of SFUSD is to provide each student with an equal opportunity to succeed by promoting intellectual growth, creativity, self-discipline, cultural and linguistic sensitivity, democratic responsibility, economic competence, and physical and mental health so that each student can achieve his or her maximum potential. SFUSD recently completed Vision 2025, an innovative and transformative vision that will require all San Franciscans to invest in the future of public education through partnerships like Circle the Schools.