



# Adopt-A-School

Olathe Public Schools

***The Adopt-A-School Partnership allows for developing a relationship between an outside organization or group and a particular school. Partnership examples include Olathe Youth Mentors, back pack programs, building and landscape improvement projects, dental care support before or after school tutoring.***

Developing an Adopt-A-School partnership requires:

- **Step 1 – Preparation**

Identify a school to serve. Contact the Olathe District’s Community Liaison (see back). Either identify a school or a school can be identified.

- **Step 2 – Relationships**

Coordinate a meeting with the principal to begin building a relationship asking, “ How can we help?” Share your mission and vision. The school will share theirs.

- **Step 3 – Assessment**

Identify a coordinator/contact in the organization/group and at the school. Assess the needs of the school and resources of the organization/group.

- **Step 4 – Action Plan: Development and Implementation**

Develop a collaborative action plan with goals, strategies, and measureable outcomes. Consider implementing existing partnership initiatives with proven process and tools. Draw together other current and potential partners (churches, businesses, etc.) to coordinate efforts. Train volunteers as needed. All partnerships that involve individuals coming into schools involves a formal screening process.

- **Step 5 - Consistency and Sustainability**

Develop a mutually agreed upon timeline with checkpoints. How are we doing? Make needed changes as needed. Celebrate successes!





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*Educational partnerships foster excellence and quality. In the Olathe Public Schools partnerships may be implemented in many ways. Some partnerships are short term; some are long term on-going relationships. One important partnership is the “Adopt-A-School” model.*

**What does it take to have a positive, fully functioning, sustainable partnership?**

- Win-win philosophy
- Trust and honesty
- Appreciation
- Written description of roles and responsibilities
- Point person identified to manage partnerships
- Time to understand each other’s culture and procedures
- Clearly defined goals (whether short or long term) and expected outcomes
- Open two-way communication
- Full participation on both sides
- Recognition
- Mutual respect

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## How to Connect



If you are interested in a partnership opportunity, please contact:

**Heather Schoonover**  
**Community Liaison**  
**913-780-8233**

[hlschoonover@olatheschools.org](mailto:hlschoonover@olatheschools.org)

Also go to the district website:

[www.olatheschools.org/partnerships](http://www.olatheschools.org/partnerships)