



## Partners in Education

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.

To further the Olathe Public School's mission, the Board of Education approves and encourages the school, business and community partnerships. Partnerships foster a spirit of involvement and mutual respect between educators and business and community representatives for the ultimate benefit of students. Such cooperative endeavors promote the spirit of involvement and make our school system stronger. Working together promotes quality.

### **Partnerships are:**

- voluntary alliances which are mutually beneficial to all parties involved.
- consistent with the mission, and beliefs of the Olathe Public Schools.
- responsive to educational needs.
- supportive of the Board-adopted curriculum.
- reflective of educationally balanced and unbiased views.

School, business and community partners voluntarily share services, resources, knowledge, personnel and/or financial support with schools. These partnerships enhance learning. Schools benefit from increased human and/or material resources, services and activities.



### **Ingredients for Effective Partnerships:**

- Effective partnerships result from a commitment by each partner to complete mutually beneficial projects and develop a mutually respectful relationship.
- Investment in Olathe students generates a high rate of employability skills for future leaders.

### **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

## Partners in Education

## How to Connect



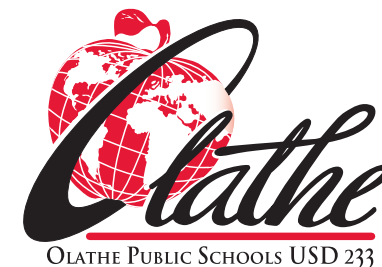
If you are interested in a partnership opportunity, please contact:

**Community Development**  
**913-780-8233**

Please visit our district website to learn more about the Olathe Partners In Education opportunities:  
**[www.olatheschools.org](http://www.olatheschools.org), Community tab**

### **Notification Statement of Non-discrimination:**

The Olathe Public Schools prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex, disability, age, religion, sexual orientation or gender identity in its programs, activities or employment, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups to its facilities as required by: Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Equal Access Act of 1984 and other relevant state and federal laws as amended. Inquiries regarding compliance with applicable civil rights statutes related to race, ethnicity, gender, age discrimination, sexual orientation, gender identity or equal access may be directed to Staff Counsel, 14160 S. Black Bob Road, Olathe, KS 66063-2000, phone 913-780-7000. All inquiries regarding compliance with applicable statutes regarding Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act may be directed to the Assistant Superintendent of Support Services, 14160 S. Black Bob Rd. Olathe, KS 66063-2000, phone 913-780-7000. Interested persons including those with impaired vision or hearing, can also obtain information as to the existence and location of services, activities and facilities that are accessible to and usable by disabled persons by calling the Assistant Superintendent of Support Services. (03/19)



**Community**



**Partnerships**



## Partnership Opportunities

### Adopt-a-School



The Olathe Adopt-A-School partnership allows for developing a relationship between an outside organization and a particular school. Partnership examples include mentoring, student learning enrichment opportunities, weekend back snack programs, building landscaping improvements, community service learning and much more.

The goal is to pair each site with a business, faith, civic and parent group partner.

For information about school partnerships, please contact Community Development at 913-780-8236.



### Volunteers Serving Schools



The district volunteer program provides mentors and classroom support for students in Kindergarten through 12th grade.

Youth Mentors provide social, emotional, and academic enrichment for students as well as career or college support for older students. Mentors encourage students to become the best they can be and help prepare them for their future. Mentoring occurs during the school day on school grounds.

Classroom helpers support teachers but can also help in many other ways. They can assist with art, music, library support, small group reading or math, before or after school homework sessions, history or debate judging, field day help, bulletin board displays and special projects.

For information or an application, please contact the Volunteers Serving Schools office at 913-780-8237.

### Watch D.O.G.S.



The Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) program is mainly for dads within a school but several sites need additional support for promoting positive male figures in the school setting. Volunteer duties include helping in the lunch room, dismissal support and small group helpers. Contact your local school for details.

### Olathe Transition Supports Program



The Olathe Transition Supports Program provides opportunities for students to acquire skills to promote a successful transition to the community after high school. Community businesses partner with transition programs within the district to provide real-world vocational training opportunities for students 16 years old and older with disabilities. Students complete various tasks at the community based work site with job coach supervision as needed. Transportation is provided by the school district.

### Career Pathways



Community partners can also provide Work-Based Learning Experiences that provide students with real-world workplace preparation. Career Pathways include students that are part of the 21st Century Academics, Career and Technical Education Pathways and/or Olathe Advanced Technical Center programs. For additional information, please contact the Career Pathways department at (913) 780-8042.

