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Why Aid for Educators

by Greg Meyer

Growing up I was the teacher's worst nightmare, class clown, talking in class, not paying attention, talking back and low grades. This was before ADD/ADHD was discovered and of course there was no medication. But, looking back my teachers worked with me and more important, did not give up on me.

Also, excuses were not accepted, work ethic was expected and parents blamed you first. After high school I enlisted in the US Navy. I credit my teachers for helping me get my diploma and preparing me to enter a man's world at seventeen.

Fifty years later teachers are still helping and caring for their students, but

parents, students and school districts have changed and are making it almost impossible to be an effective educator.

Today, is hard for parents or a single parent to raise their children. Having multiple jobs, day care, rising health care costs, crime, finding quality family time, gasoline prices and rising food costs.

These are valid reasons for a parent to feel the pressure, but when it comes to putting pressure on their kid for bad grades or behavior, reasons become excuses. The teacher doesn't teach my child. The teacher doesn't like my child. My child is too busy can you change this for him. We can't afford to buy supplies



Status of Aid4Edu

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by Greg Meyer

Currently, we need funds to help get off the ground. Donations can be given at our website. We also have a Facebook and Twitter page. Check out the links and LIKE or FOLLOW.

www.aid4edu.org

[Facebook](#)

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Aid for Educators is now a Texas nonprofit corporation. Our identification number is EIN 46-1208082. A bank account under **Aid for Educators, Inc.** will now be opened.

Next, is to file the mounds of paperwork with the IRS to become a 501(c) 3 nonprofit corporation, which will enable **Aid for Educators** to apply for grants.

Why Aid for Educators (continued from page 1)

but have money to buy pumped up kicks (gym shoes) and more excuses.

Today's student seems to lack discipline, respect, work ethic, has excuses for everything, does not take responsibility, has "i" distraction, i-Pod, i-Touch, i-Phone, the list just keeps going.

School districts are poorly managed bureaucracies and states mandate curriculum and testing. There are budget cuts, which lead to teacher layoffs and no pay increases. When there is a 1-3 percent pay raise the health care costs are increased. Districts and administrators seem to forget the only reason for their existence is to support the teachers and students.

Why did I say all of the above?

Because, guess what, all the examples funnel down to the teacher. The hovering parent listening to their child's excuse or lie about their grades. Blaming the teacher first before finding the truth. Was it the teacher, their child or both at fault. The school district cutting department budgets and freezing wages. Parents who cannot afford school supplies, or worse, refusing to pay for their kid's supplies.

The teacher's classroom is a "safe place" for the student. There are no outside distractions. They learn, talk to one another, not text, and feel a sense of worth and pride. The classroom should have all the décor and materials needed to motivate the student, as well as, the teacher.

"Aid for Educators" was started, to ask for donations and grants to help teachers purchase supplies and materials.

Teachers Spend Own Money On Necessity Items For Their Students

by Huffingpost 08/23/2102

Many teachers routinely spend money out of their own pockets on necessity items for their students, according to a nationwide survey conducted by AdoptAClassroom.org.

The organization surveyed 1,188 K-12 teachers from public, private and charter schools throughout the country, and found that the vast majority of teachers - 91 percent -- reported purchasing things for their students that ranged from food and snacks, to personal care items like toothbrushes and soap.

"This survey of our teachers makes one thing abundantly clear: teachers are not only educating students, but through their out-of-pocket purchases, teachers are tackling major social issues such as homelessness, poverty, hunger and teaching students basic life skills," said

James Rosenberg, founder of AdoptAClassroom.org. "Again and again, we see it happen -- when society lets kids down, it's teachers who step in to fill the gap."

According to a news release, more than 15 million children in the United States live in households that can't provide all the resources they need to succeed in school. [Previous research has found teachers spend up to \\$1,000 each year](#) on these items, a total of \$1.3 billion.

Here's a breakdown of some of the items teachers reported buying for their students, according to the [AdoptAClassroom](http://AdoptAClassroom.org) survey results:

Supplies – pencils, paper, glue, paints, brushes, rulers

Food – cereal, drinks, snacks

Clothing – jackets, hats, gloves, shoes, shoe laces

Hygiene Products – paper towels, tooth brushes, toilet paper, soap

Field Trips - More than half of all teachers have paid the costs of field trips for students who couldn't afford to participate otherwise

Alarm Clocks - Several teachers reported purchasing alarm clocks for students. Due to work schedules or family circumstances, guardians were unable to wake their children for school, which led to absences and academic underperformance



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