



For Immediate Release
INSERT DATE

Contact: Elizabeth Schreiber, Supply Zone Program Manager
(321) 633-3660, ext. 31301

Attachments: Virtual Supply Drive Flyer
List of Items Needed

Supply Zone Sponsors Virtual School Supply Drive

BREVARD COUNTY, FL – The Brevard Schools Foundation’s Supply Zone for Teachers is hosting the Reopening Schools Virtual Supply Drive. All supplies collected will benefit low-income students in Brevard Public Schools. The public is invited to participate by shopping the Supply Zone’s online charity registries or by donating funds. All financial donations will be doubled by a matching funds grant provided by the Consortium of Florida Education Foundations. The website for the virtual drive can be found at <https://brevardschoolsfoundation.org/>.

With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, poverty levels have been on the rise across Brevard. Families who were previously struggling financially are now facing even more dire circumstances. The children in these households spent months struggling to keep up with their peers but were at a greater disadvantage than their classmates because they had significantly limited resources in comparison. Many of them lacked essential electronic devices, consistent access to food, and basic school supplies.

“When classes resume in August— whether in person or remotely— low-income students will still be at a disadvantage,” said Elizabeth Schreiber, Supply Zone Program Manager. “For in-classroom learning, CDC guidelines recommend that each student has his or her own, personal set of school supplies. If families opt for virtual, at-home learning, students will still need their own set of supplies to complete their lessons. Many low-income families will not be able to afford this additional expense.”

To help these students, the Supply Zone has launched a no-contact, virtual supply drive. A website has been established where the public can shop charity registries from various online retailers. To participate, shoppers can click on the link for their preferred retailer; options include AmazonSmile, Target, Walmart, Office Depot, and others. They will then be taken to a Wishlist set up by the Supply Zone. After shopping the site, they will input the Supply Zone’s shipping address to have supplies sent directly to the facility. Upon receipt of the items, the Supply Zone will safely distribute them to students and teachers in need.

Financial donations are also requested so items not received during the drive may be purchased. As a nonprofit organization, the Supply Zone is able to purchase school supplies tax-free and at a fraction of the retail price. All financial donations will be matched by a grant provided by the Consortium of Florida Education Foundations, funded by the Florida Department of Education.

To participate in the drive, supporters should visit <https://brevardschoolsfoundation.org/>. For more information, please contact Elizabeth Schreiber, Program Manager, at Schreiber.Elizabeth@BrevardSchools.org or 321-633-3660, ext. 31301.